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As of 8 September 1988, the Chad section will be published in the Central Africa division of the Sub-Saharan Africa DAILY REPORT.

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LD0709130088 [Editorial Report]

Iran

Resignation Withdrawal—In a letter to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni broadcast by Tehran radio, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi announced that he considers it "an honor and advisable" to follow Khomeyni's "lofty leadership" and withdraw his resignation. Noting that his decision was made in light of a "fatherly admonition" from Khomeyni, Musavi confirmed that he will have a personal discussion with Khomeyni of "the issues which I believe to be in the interests of the country."

Musavi's decision came in response to a letter from Khomeyni urging the prime minister to continue in his post because this is "no time to complain and resign." Khomeyni's letter, which was broadcast by the radio, disclosed that Musavi's resignation announcement had "caused some surprise," and chided the prime minister for failing to mention the matter beforehand to Khomeyni or to other high-ranking officials. As for Musavi's dispute with the Majlis over cabinet appointments, Khomeyni indicated that the Majlis will continue to have the right to veto ministers, but he added that if necessary, the recently-formed assembly for ascertaining the interest of the revolution will place "any amount of authority that it desires at the disposal of the government." "Since I am fond of you," Khomeyni told Musavi, "in our next meeting I shall counsel you on some issues."

In a statement cited by KUNA, opposition leader Mas'ud Rajavi viewed Musavi's resignation announcement as "an eruption of feudings within the regime" which can "no longer be concealed." Rajavi indicated that Musavi is at odds with his foreign minister, 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Geneva Talks—Foreign Minister Velayati will not attend the Nonaligned Movement foreign ministers conference in Cyprus because of the significance he attaches to the Geneva talks and because of Iran's eagerness to see a positive move in the peace process, IRNA reported. An IRNA commentary expressed concern that Iraq may use the deadlock in the talks as a "pretext" to "renew its aggression" against Iran.

Iraq

Saddam Husayn Warning to Iran—The war will "resume" if the Iranians search any Iraqi vessel in the Gulf, President Saddam Husayn warned in a speech to Arab information ministers carried by INA. Reaffirming Iraq's demand for free navigation in the Gulf without restrictions, he asserted that "if they search our ships we will send out our war fleet and catch their ships one by one."

Noting that Iraq also wants the United Nations to arrange the clearing of the Shatt al-'Arab, Saddam Husayn said that if Iraq wants to be intransigent, it could insist on carrying out the dredging itself "as it is our waterway." Iraq has no designs on Iran and "no ambitions on any inch of Iran," the president stressed, and the Iraqis "have no reasons for not agreeing to the cease-fire or for not ending the war." However, he indicated that if the conflict is resumed, Iraq will have "greater potentials than the present ones."

'Amnesty' for Kurds—In a statement broadcast by Baghdad radio, the Revolution Command Council (RCC) announced its decision to issue a "general and comprehensive amnesty for Iraqi Kurds from any legal prosecution for any action punishable under the law committed prior to this statement." Those outside the country who wish to benefit must return to Iraq within 30 days. The RCC also decided to pardon and release imprisoned Kurdish rebels, noting that "only the traitor Jalal Talabani is exempted from this amnesty," not only because of his "treason and known agentry," but also because he has "betrayed his promises and pledges more than once" in the past. The statement added that the position of "good" Kurds will continue to be "different from those who harmed Iraq" even when the latter "return to the correct path."

Reviewing the history of the Kurdish secession, the RCC contended that the swift collapse of the Barzani uprising after the shah of Iran withdrew his support in 1975 was evidence of the movement's connection with foreign powers. The "hireling agents" tried their luck once again during the Iran-Iraq war and "stabbed our armed forces in the back" while the latter were defending Iraqi Kurdistan against Iranian offensives. Despite the "pain" which Iraqis feel about this, the new amnesty is in accordance with their "magnanimity of forgiving when in a position of strength," the statement added.

In Ankara, the Iraqi ambassador accused Kurdish guerrilla fighters of using women and children as a screen while fleeing Iraq, ANATOLIA reported, and he reaffirmed Iraq's denial of using chemical weapons against the Kurds. Despite the amnesty statement from Baghdad, he warned that "criminals will be brought to justice if they ever return to Iraq." The ambassador also denied reports of tension in Iraq-Turkish relations over the Kurdish issue, asserting that bilateral relations have "improved" since the Iran-Iraq cease-fire and are now in "very good shape."

For Turkey's part, a Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by Ankara radio expressed his country's "appreciation and satisfaction" over the RCC's "commonsense" decision to declare a general amnesty. The official spoke of the "close friendship and neighborliness" between the two countries. The Turkish Interior Ministry earlier denied reports that Iraqi troops entered Turkish soil to carry out military operations, the radio noted.

Israel

A "large force" of IDF troops marched on Qalqilyah, arrested 150 members of the Fatah youth movement, and declared the area a closed military zone, Jerusalem and IDF radios indicated. Three rioters were wounded by IDF gunfire during a disturbance at a Gaza Strip refugee camp, Jerusalem radio reported. A Rafah resident died of wounds sustained in a recent riot there, the radio added. Two East Jerusalem journalists were among four men arrested at a meeting in Hizma, MA'ARIV disclosed.

Western "intelligence services" have warned the South Korean authorities that about 20 Japanese Red Army "terrorists" have left their "base in Lebanon" and will attempt to assassinate Israeli and U.S. team members at the Seoul Olympic Games, a "senior source at the French Foreign Ministry" told YEDI'OT AHARONOT.

Palestinian Affairs

Uprising "Call No 25," signed by the "uprising leadership" and distributed in Jerusalem, urged Palestinians in the occupied territories to "support" PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's efforts with "European parliamentarians" and to back plans to place the territories under "international supervision" pending "negotiations" on a permanent settlement, Radio Monte Carlo revealed. The call criticized the Islamic Resistance Movement, which opposes any negotiations with Israel, the radio added. The "most important points" of the "Call of the Massacres' Martyrs," as broadcast by clandestine Al-Quds Radio, do not mention the passage requesting support for 'Arafat but ask Palestinians to "confront" the Israeli "transfer policy" and to stage a series of demonstrations, strikes, and sit-ins to continue the "struggle."

According to a report in the UAE's AL-ITTIHAD, "high-ranking Palestinian sources in Damascus" disclosed that Sabri al-Banna (Abu Nidal) participated in a recent meeting between Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and "pro-Syrian" Palestinian groups, MENA reported.

Libya

Col. al-Qadhdhafi, in an interview with an Algerian journalist carried by Tripoli television, called the U.S. economic boycott "silly" and termed it a "failed and stupid policy." However, he maintained that Libya "benefitted" from the boycott by being forced to turn to "production and self-sufficiency." Other foreign policy issues touched on in the interview included the Western Sahara, the Palestinian situation, and Maghreb unity. Al-Qadhdhafi said Libya and Algeria are drafting a constitution to form a "unionist state" and expressed "great pleasure" at Algeria's move to eliminate the need for passports to travel across the Libyan border. He added that Tunisia "might join" in setting up the state, which will be established "despite the United States." But he said convening another Maghreb summit is "not important" as long as working committees accomplish their goals.

Kuwait

During his recent visit, the French defense minister delivered an offer from France to supply Kuwait with "all its needs of advanced weaponry," according to an AL-QABAS interview with the Kuwaiti defense minister cited by KUNA. He called the visit "fruitful" and said Kuwait's weaponry needs are "under study."

Egypt

Two "Muslim fundamentalists" were killed and 26 persons wounded in a 2 September clash with police in Dayr Mawas, according to police statements cited by Beirut radio. Monitored Egyptian media were not observed to report the disturbance.

An editorial in the opposition newspaper AL-WAFD expressed "astonishment" at recent remarks by Col al-Qadhdhafi criticizing the Egyptian Government and maintained support for President Husni Mubarak.

Syria-YAR

The two countries signed agreements on planning, technological, and economic cooperation and established a "higher joint committee" to further cooperation in trade, agriculture, transportation, information, and other areas, Damascus radio announced.

Afghanistan

A Pakistani envoy in Kabul was summoned to the Foreign Ministry to receive a "strong protest" against Pakistan's "baseless allegations" concerning Afghan Air Force bombing raids and air space violations, Kabul radio announced. A Foreign Ministry spokesman called the Pakistani charge a "propaganda maneuver," the radio reported. A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman told journalists that no "concrete proofs" exist to support the charges which he called "nothing but inventions," TASS stated.

Voice of America reports that Soviet troops are helping to defend Qandahar are "lies" that are "clearly aimed" at disturbing Afghan citizens and boosting the morale of rebel fighters, a TASS news analyst maintained. He said the Soviet contingent left the city and has "never returned."

Kabul residents, expecting a "major energy and food crisis," are hoarding supplies of food and gasoline, according to Western diplomats cited by AFP.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Algerian, Libyan, Syrian Foreign Ministers Meet

LD0609154388 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Text] A tripartite meeting was held today at the Foreign Ministry headquarters between Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi; Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and Faruq al-Shar' of Syria. They discussed developments in the Arab arena in light of the popular uprising in occupied Palestine and the results of the Algiers emergency Arab summit.

The Libyan and Syrian officials arrived yesterday.

Ministers Comment on Talks

LD0609204888 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Text] At the presidency today Mr Chadli Bendjedid, secretary general of the FLN and president of the republic received Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi before his departure for Nicosia. Dr Taleb is heading the Algerian delegation to the proceedings of the Nonaligned Movement ministerial meeting to be held in the Cypriot capital.

At the Presidency His Excellency the president also received Mr Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and Faruq al-Shar', Syrian foreign minister. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Larbi Belkheir, director of the Presidential Office, and the ambassadors of Syria and the Libyan Jamahiriyah in Algiers.

After his meeting with the President, Mr Faruq al-Shar' made the following statement to our colleague Rabah Haddad:

[Begin Al-Shar' recording] It was an important opportunity for me to meet with Brother President Chadli Bendjedid. During this meeting I conveyed greetings from his brother, President Hafiz al-Asad, and we exchanged views on the new developments in the region and on the coordination among our three states with regard to issues concerning our Arab nation, especially on the eve of the nonaligned foreign ministers conference and the UN General Assembly.

I can say that we are extremely satisfied with this meeting which we were accorded and there was an identity of views between our three states and political leaderships. We also agreed to reinforce the bonds of brotherhood between our three sister countries. We are determined to continue these contacts and consolidate our relations. [end recording]

Mr Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, the secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison in the Libyan Jamahiriyah for his part said:

[Begin Al-Talhi recording] I believe that Brother Faruq al-Shar' has already expressed what I could have said. However, I would like to a[illegible] only that we were received by His Excellency the president and I conveyed greetings to him from the brother leader and his gratitude and appreciation for the initiative taken by the Algerian brothers in calling for this coordination meeting.

With regard to the meeting, it was an opportunity, especially on the eve of the nonaligned foreign ministers conference and before the forthcoming UN General Assembly session, to review new developments and issues concerning us. I believe that there is an identity of views on everything we discussed and that this meeting was extremely useful. Once again I reiterate my thanks to brother Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi for his initiative in calling for this meeting. Thank you. [end recording]

Today His Excellency the president also received Mr Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, a Lebanese religious figure. It is worth mentioning that Shaykh Fadlallah took part in the proceedings of the 22d Symposium on Islamic Thought, which ended at the Hotel Aurassi in Algiers yesterday.

Following his meeting with His Excellency the president of the republic, Shaykh Fadlallah made this statement:

[Begin Fadlallah recording] My meeting with His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid was a good opportunity to discuss political problems in the Muslim world, notably the Lebanese problem, which is extremely complex and is causing the Lebanese people to suffer as a result of international interference in its internal affairs.

We also discussed the Palestinian issue, which is the central issue for all Muslims and Arabs in the world. We listened to the president's profound view on the issues of the Muslim and Arab nation and we felt that there was an identity of views on most of these matters. We also appreciate Algeria's vanguard role and its wise and balanced policy, which examines the issues of the Muslim world from all angles, with an open and responsible mind, in line with reality, and it does not depart from the slogans of the revolution.

Palestinian Affairs

Popular, National Committees Issue Call No 25

JN0609182388 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1624 GMT 6 Sep 88

["Most important points" of Call No 25 issued by the Popular and National Committees of the Uprising: "The Call of the Massacres' Martyrs"]

[Text] No voice rises above the voice of the Palestinian people. Call No 25, the call of massacres' martyrs. O masses of our great people, your uprising is now completing 9 months of its long life to inaugurate its 10th month

with more intensity and insistance in continuing despite all forms and means of fascist oppression, collective punishment, policies of starvation and economic siege, home demolitions, large detention campaigns, deportations, the burning of districts, the assassination of strugglers, the demolition of property, and long-term curfews.

Your great popular uprising continues its daily struggle with great momentum and comprehensiveness on the path of demolishing and weakening the tools and organs of the occupation authorities and establishing the national authority of the people represented by the popular committees. Your glorious uprising, on the threshold of its 10th month, has managed to achieve new things added to its total political and struggling achievements during the past months. O masses of our heroic people, the sly attempts of the Zionist enemy to implement the transfer [preceding word in English] policy through what it terms temporary deportation—which dictates deporting the strugglers from their land for varying periods of time and imposes the condition that they sign pledges n t to carry out any struggle role and to ensure peace in their regions so that they can come back to their land and country—is considered a clear violation of the Geneva accords. They do not differ in form and essence from the deportation policy condemned by the Security Council and the whole world. We ask our people to confront this policy.

O masses of our struggling people, O masses of the uprising and its strike forces, we are proud of the demonstration in which 20,000 people, defying the curfew, roamed the streets of proud Gaza. We are proud of the Jabal al-Nar [Nabulus] masses, who confirmed this phenomenon and the strike forces in Yattah who executed the will of the people on those who sold themselves to the occupation and betrayed their people and nation. O masses of the uprising and its strike forces, as we salute the Palestinian arms that gave the stone connotations of revolution and struggle, we ask these arms to hurl even more stones and Molotov cocktails at the enemy forces and settlers everywhere and always. We call on our people to execute the following activities:

1. On 8 September a day of general strike on the occasion of the uprising's concluding its 9th month and preparing to enter its 10th month with great vigor.

2. On 10 September a day of solidarity with our institutions, societies, and unions that have been closed down by sit-ins outside their headquarters.

3. On 13 September a day where sit-ins will be organized outside the European consulates in Jerusalem and memorandums will be sent to their governments.

4. On 15 September a day to purify our internal front from the filth of agents and traitors and to pressure those who have not resigned to submit their resignation.

5. On 17 September a day of general strike in commemoration of the Dayr Yasin, Sabra, and Shatila massacres and the martyrs of all the massacres our nation has been subjected to.

6. On 18 September a day for daily [as heard] confrontational activities rejecting the massacres being carried out against our people.

7. On 22 September a day for entrenching the people's power and establishing more popular committees.

8. On 26 September a day for a general strike in solidarity with the detainees and protesting against the existence of Ansar-III [Israeli detention center].

Together on the path of intensification and struggle until we realize the national ambitions of our people in liberty and independence. We will certainly triumph. God is with us and victory is near. Together on the path of liberating land and man.

Uprising Statement Urges Support For 'Arafat

JN0709060588 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Text] A statement signed by the uprising leadership has been distributed in the occupied territories calling on Palestinians to support PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat. The statement, Statement No 25, is the first statement to mention 'Arafat by name.

The statement was distributed in Jerusalem and calls for supporting 'Arafat's efforts to win the support of European parliamentarians. The statement also calls for support for placing the occupied territory under international supervision while awaiting negotiations that lead to a permanent settlement.

The statement criticizes the Islamic resistance movement which opposes any negotiations with Israel.

Abu Nidal Meets With Al-Qadhdhafi in Libya

NC0609133488 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1255 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 Sep (MENA)—According to high-ranking Palestinian sources in Damascus, Sabri al-Banna [Abu Nidal] is currently in Libya, contrary to recent statements by Libyan Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in which he denied that Abu Nidal's headquarters is in Libya. Abu Nidal is said to spend most of his time in Yugoslavia and Lebanon.

Today's issue of the Abu Dhabi-based newspaper AL-ITTIHAD cites the above sources as saying that Abu Nidal took part a few days ago in a prolonged meeting between Al-Qadhdhafi and leaders of the pro-Syrian Palestinian groups. The meeting, which was held on the sidelines of the Al-Fatih celebrations in Libya, was also

attended by George Habash, Nayif Hawatimah, Ahmad Jibril, Samir Ghawshah, Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muraghah], and 'Isam al-Qadi.

According to the paper, the prolonged meeting involved [passage incomplete as received].

PLO Official on Formalizing 2-State Policy

AU0309141288 Rome ANSA in English 1021 GMT 3 Sep 88

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, Sept 3—The head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's mission in Rome, Nimr Haddad, has confirmed here that the PLO will now be seeking to "formalise" its policy of "two states and two peoples in Palestine."

Interviewed for the latest edition of the Italian Communist Party's weekly, RINASCITA, he said "the moment has come to review the PLO's founding charter, making formal what was already within the policy we have been pursuing in the last few years".

According to Haddad, "Basically, this means returning to the United Nations decision of 1947, regaining not just its political and territorial aspects, but also its basic spirit, the hope of coexistence in peace, cooperation and mutual security between Jews and Arabs."

"We have truly entered a new phase in the Middle East's history", said Haddad, "a phase in which the possibilities of peace are more concrete than in the past."

"The rebellion in the occupied territories, its determination, and the incredible continuity and clarity of its objectives have convinced the astute Husayn there are no more margins to favour, or, in any case, support, the ambiguity of American and Israeli policy in the Middle East."

In a further reference to King Husayn of Jordan's decision to renounce adminstrative control of the West Bank, Haddad added that his choice was dictated "more by healthy political realism than any 'conversion' of the Jordanian monarch to the reasons of the Palestinian cause."

"Whatever the case may be", the PLO official added, "this decision represents an extraordinary element of clarity in the often obscure Middle Eastern situation."

"For the first time since 1950, we can talk, not only in political terms, but also in terms of international law, of the Palestinian question not only as concerning a community, but a people, a land, a national sovereignty to be exercised directly."

"Today, we can turn over a new leaf", Haddad argued in concluding the interview. "In Israel, those who say the state's security is not guaranteed by the brutal exercise of power, but by resolution of the open question in political terms, have a stronger voice.

"And, above all, the new international climate gives me confidence in the future", he said, echoing an earlier point in which he said, "We shall do all we can to make the utopia of peace a reality, even taking the onus for unilateral acts of reconciliation..

PLO's Khalid al-Hasan Interviewed on Issues

TA0509104088 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 5 Sep 88 p 17

["First" interview with "PLO ideologue" Khalid al-Hasan by 'Uzi Mahanaymi; date not given—telephone interview to Geneva]

[Text] Mahanaymi: As your book on the 1985 Jordanian-Palestinian agreement on joint operations proves, you were the first to anticipate in the intifada [uprising]. What do you think will be the reaction of the inhabitants of the territories should the Palestinian leadership abroad fail to channel the uprising to political lines?

Al-Hasan: I do not think that the leaders of the uprising will at any stage separate themselves from the leaders abroad. The leaders of the uprising constitute part of the Palestinian leadership. If we fail to score political gains from the uprising it will be for a good reason, and the leaders of the uprising will understand this. Our goal is to continue to fight to show the world that we exist.

Mahanaymi: What is actually prompting you to seek a settlement now, after such a prolonged struggle and despite your contention that time is playing into your hands?

Al-Hasan: We are in no hurry. We have been fighting for a state of our own since 1920. In any case we will have to wait for an international conference to determine things. What we intend to do at this stage is declare independence. This is a political move. From the practical point of view, we must wait for the superpowers and the United Nations to assume responsibility for the occupied territories. As I said, we are currently reviewing the idea of declaring independence, realizing that the occupation might continue until an international conference is held. The future is ours. We want a solution now to save lives on both sides. The idea of two states is a notion we accepted long ago.

Mahanaymi: I can understand why you refuse to endorse UN Security Council Resolution 242, but would you accept a mutual recognition of and by Israel even before negotiations begin? After all, such a step could strengthen your standing in the eyes of the world.

Al-Hasan: I believe that mutual recognition must be the outcome of an international conference. If the Israeli leadership ceases to maintain such a hostile attitude toward the PLO, and if we stop hearing, day in and day out, those speeches from the Begin school, then we, too, will change our tune. If you recognize us as the representatives of the Palestinian people and accept our right to independence, a reciprocal move on our part will be

forthcoming. What I am trying to say is that we will recognize the State of Israel after our right to our sovereign state is accepted. Regarding this "recognition of Israel," I support the statements by Bassam Abu Sharif and Abu Iyad.

Mahanaymi: You must be aware that many Israelis doubt the sincerity of your intentions. Could you promise us that the peace arrangements will be final and absolute? What will you tell a Yafo-born Palestinian if he insists that he wants to include Yafo within the boundaries of the Palestinian state? What about your "phased strategy" which advocates a Palestinian state in the territories, not as a final solution but merely as an interim stage?

Al-Hasan: As long as you reserve the right to return for yourselves, you cannot deny us the same right. We therefore aspire to reach an agreement. Nonetheless, in the long term the door must be kept open for all—Jews and Arabs—to determine their future. All agreements are final until the parties are ready to change them. There is nothing static in our world. You must understand that just as you have your fears, we have ours. What will happen in the future? This is not something that can be decided. The international conference could serve as the framework for reaching the final agreement, but even that agreement would not necessarily have to be God's gospel. We are on the threshhold of the 21st century. Many countries, including former enemies, currently maintain a modicum of cooperation—the EEC countries, for example. Either we, too, will make a historic landmark and cooperate, or we will all be annihilated.

Mahanaymi: If that is the case, then why are you not going back to your original idea of establishing a secular state in which the two peoples will live side by side?

Al-Hasan: This is indeed our dream. We have visions of our living together in one country. Nevertheless, we must be realistic.

Mahanaymi: Israeli elections are scheduled to be held in 2 months. What do you think the impact of a Likud-led government on the peace process will be?

Al-Hasan: I am not pinning any hope on the Israeli political leadership. We have faith in the Israeli people, who are currently being misled and misguided by fear. I do not think they are bad people. There are only bad leaders.

Mahanaymi: At the next PNC conference, will you accept resolutions on a government-in-exile or statehood even at the cost of a split? George Habash, after all, reneged on his agreement to a government-in-exile?

Al-Hasan: You often make that mistake. You always talk about a split. We have our own "Likud," but we establish a dialogue and reach agreements more easily than you. I disagree with you about George. Some will accept the majority view. The rest will remain in the opposition. At any rate, we plan to discuss a declaration of independence, the idea of a government-in-exile, and the Palestinian government's political platform. After all, even back in 1974 we decided to set up two countries, one bordering the other. The problem is that you are not ready to listen. Now, after Husayn's speech, you started to listen. The fact of the matter is that we have been using the same language for many years.

Oakley Remarks on Deportations Derided

JN0509112988 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 0915 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers. Under the heading "Washington Opposes the Deportation Policy" Phyllis Oakley, assistant spokesman of the U.S. Department of State [title as heard], condemned the Zionist entity's policy of deporting Palestinians from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The condemnation was voiced following the Zionist forces' deportation of 4 Palestinians to southern Lebanon and issuing orders for the deportation of 25 more.

It may be strange for U.S. foreign policy if Oakley had stopped at clear condemnation without further elaboration. However, U.S. criticism of the Zionist entity usually does not go beyond casual remarks, and does not have the minimum negative effect on the strategic relationship between Washington and Tel Aviv. Even words are often divested of their critical content and tend to create justifications through a common U.S.-Zionist view. In this regard, Oakley has not lagged behind other U.S. politicians, for she added: Deportations increase the dissatisfaction of the Palestinians and that generates further violence. Oakley also said: If any individual has committed a criminal action he must be brought to trial and punished in accordance with the provisions of the law.

The U.S. condemnation of the deportation decision is a deceptive justification. On the surface it denounces Zionist practices that conflict with the most elementary of human rights, while its essence is to encourage such actions and to lay the blame on the Palestinians.

When the U.S. Administration ignores the deportees' national identity, the legitimacy of their struggle, and the reason for their deportation by the Zionist forces, and merely refers to "Palestinian disatisfaction" and "acts of violence," the U.S. Administration is in fact using the Zionists' language. What relationship is there between one who fights for the freedom of his country and for safeguarding his rights and a criminal? Who is the real criminal here? Undoubtedly he is the Zionist enemy and those who try to cover up and justify his crimes.

Throughout the 40 years of its existence the Zionist enemy practiced a policy of expulsion and deportation against the Palestinian Arab people. He is still committing such crimes coupled with the ugliest forms of

terrorism and persecution, thus detonating an allout uprising against the enemy and repression. The uprising has produced heroes and popular committees of struggle. It revived the world's serious interest in the fate of an entire people whom the Zionist machine of oppression and terrorism failed to uproot.

The United States has interests other than seeking to achieve a just and comprehensive solution. All U.S. efforts are concentrated on using all means to polish the image of the Zionist entity. It is that which Oakley tried to do under the heading of the alleged condemnation.

Chad

Official Delegation Attends Libyan Celebrations

AB0309102088 London BBC World Service in English 0730 GMT 3 Sep 88

[From the "African News" program]

[Text] An official Chadian delegation has been in the Libyan capital, Tripoli, this week, the first reported visit by Chadian officials to Libya since the two countries agreed to abide by a cease-fire negotiated by the Organization of African Unity. The delegation, comprising UNIR [National Union for Independence and Revolution] officials, attended celebrations marking the 19th anniversary of the coup in which Colonel al-Qadhdhafi became leader of Libya. Correspondents say the arrival of the Chadian group is being seen as a sign of better relations and a willingness by both sides to resolve the dispute over the Aozou Strip, the mineral-rich region on their common border.

Opposition Groups Reconcile With Government

AB0309104488 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 2 Sep 88

[Text] National reconciliation: The Chadian family is expanding. The head of state's message to all the sons of Chad is being heeded. To this effect, some brothers, who yesterday were in the opposition, have returned home. They are the Chadian Popular Union and two FAP [Popular Armed Forces] groups. The representatives of these three groups, Yacoub Mahamat Ourada, Said Nahib Faye, and Mahamat Saharidja, were received this morning by the minister of interior and territorial administration, Ibrahim Mahatmat Itno. After the meeting with the minister of interior, Yacoub Mahamat Ourada granted an interview to the national press. In the interview, he explained the reason for their return home. [passage indistinct]

Decrees Issued on Cooperation, Financial Projects

AB0609174288 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Text] By ordinance No 023/PR/88 relating to the ratification of the cooperation agreement between the Governments of the Republic of Cape Verde and the Republic of Chad, the president of the republic, head of state, and chairman of the cabinet meeting orders:

Article 1: The cooperation agreement, signed on 10 April 1986 between the governments of the Republic of Cape Verde and the Republic of Chad, has been ratified.

Article 2: The ministers of foreign affairs, planning and cooperation, finance and computerization are charged with the implementation of the present agreement, which will be published in the national gazette.

The head of state also signed a decree on the creation of a high committee charged with monitoring the project on Chad's economic and financial management. The president of the republic, head of state, and chairman of the cabinet meeting decrees:

Article 1: A high committee charged with monitoring Chad's economic and financial management project, to be called the financial project, by the International Development Agency, IDA, has been established.

Article 2: The high committee is composed of the following people: the minister of planning and cooperation, chairman; the minister of finance and computerization, deputy chairman; the minister at the presidency for general inspectorate and state control, deputy chairman; the secretary general of government and the secretary general of the presidency are members. The high committee has the right to ask for the views of people thought to be useful.

Article 3: The high committee is charged to manage the technical assistance and the funds allocated for training and other activities. It will also manage the population census, constructing buildings which will house the project, and will preside over the selection of candidates to undergo long-term training abroad. These candidates will be selected according to certain criteria. The high committee will also select activities in addition to those identified in the project in order to improve the country's economic and financial management, which will be financed by the IDA.

Article 4: The high committee is assisted by a secretary appointed by decree from the minister of planning and cooperation. The secretary is charged with monitoring the expenses of the project, the preparation of the implementation plan, the evaluation of the project cost, the proposal of any additional activity provided for in Article 3, and the registration of all the activities pertaining to the project. All documents relating to the secretary's activities will be presented to the high committee management during the ordinary or extraordinary sessions.

Article 5: The high committee may delegate certain management powers to a technical subcommittee made up of the director generals of the departments, depending on members of the high committee. The technical subcommittee will be set up by a decree from the minister of planning and cooperation, who will define the allocation of duties and the conditions in which it will operate.

Article 6: The high committee will meet four times a year to supervise the project's implementation. Nevertheless, it may meet in an extraordinary session on the demand of one of its members. The meetings will be convened by the chairman.

Article 7: Minutes on the proceedings of the high committee will be meticulously kept, and its annual report will be made by the secretary.

Article 8: The high committee may be dissolved after the project.

Article 9: The minister of planning and cooperation and the minister of finance and computerization are charged with the implementation of the present decree, which will take effect from the date of its signature and will be recorded and published in the national gazette.

Ndjamena, 2 September 1988

Briefs

Petroleum Exploration Agreement

An agreement on petroleum exploration and exploitation was signed yesterday between the Republic of Chad and (Hans) International Petroleum Company. The petroleum exploration and exploitation concession with this American company covers 251,482 square km. Exploration will be limited for the time being to the Lac zone. After the signing of the agreement, the vice president of the (Hans) International Petroleum Company, Mr Peter Hantas, was received yesterday by the president of the republic, El Hadj Hissein Habre. [Excerpt] [*AB0509100988 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 4 Sep 88*]

Libya

Algerian Television Interviews Al-Qadhdhafi

LD0609234188 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2010 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Interview with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi by Algerian Television in Tripoli on 31 August by unidentified Algerian Television correspondents—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Question] It is known that the Western states tried, through the direct U.S. aggression on the sovereignty of the Jamahiriyah, to impose an economic boycott against it. How did the revolution cope with the repercussions of that boycott?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] As far as we are concerned—Libya, Algeria, all these states—we are not afraid of an economic boycott. The issue, if you would excuse me, of speaking about an economic boycott is silly. We are states that could not lose. How could a boycott affect us—will all these electronic vehicles that we have cease to work, or will the export to their markets....[Al-Qadhdhafi changes thought] We are consumers. This boycott benefitted us a lot. They ask for consumer things, useless things like those in front of us, and the people ask, where are they? They have prohibited them, those states which manufacture them. Good, [words indistinct]. We laughed at them when they spoke of a boycott. [words indistinct]

The oil is being sold, and this is the only thing which we and you export. This oil is being sold, and the remainder is what we import. If they withhold the consumer material that we import from them, this would be in our interest. Indeed, it benefited us very much. During those years, we turned toward production and self-sufficiency. We did not lose anything. What? Do we have car factories and export hundreds of thousands of cars to their markets and, as a result of their boycott, have we accumulated cars? Do we make planes and ships for export to them, and did they boycott these? No, we do not export, we consume. If they boycott Japan, perhaps it would be harmed. If they boycott West Germany, perhaps it would be harmed. But when they boycott countries like Libya and Algeria, we do not even feel....[Al-Qadhdhafi changes thought] This is a failed and stupid policy with which they cool themselves [words indistinct].

[Question] Political observers agree that the chances and opportunities for achieving the Maghreb's unity project are now better than ever, especially after the air was cleared between the Jamahiriyah, Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco; their bilateral relations were normalized. And current efforts being made under the auspices of the UN secretary general to implement the OAU and UN resolutions regarding the conflict of the Western Sahara. These factors represent positive bases for the creation of a new dynamic in the Maghreb. Brother Colonel, what is your assessment of these factors and this dynamic? And what are your views on the settlement of the problem of the Western Sahara within the efforts being made to find a lasting and just solution to this problem?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] We are glad to see that serious moves are being made these days to find a solution to the problem of the Sahara. I was hoping to see an Arab, even a Maghreb, solution reached among ourselves. The fact that this is taking place via the UN has harmed us, in fact. Why is it the UN which solves a problem concerning Arabs? However, may God forgive our brothers in the region who did not give their brothers the opportunity to solve this problem in the family and reach an Arab, pan- Arab, and Maghreb solution. In any case, we are glad that things are moving this way, aren't we?

In fact, the bloodletting and infighting among Arabs is an embarrassment before the world and is useless. We have not even seen serious orientations for which everyone would make sacrifices. If the Polisario were a revolution aimed at changing borders, the economic system, and the political system in the entire region and at mobilizing the regional powers and directing them toward Palestine or at achieving Arab unity, fair enough; it would have had the support of even the Moroccan, Libyan, and Algerian youth, and the support would have become wider.

We supported the Polisario in the beginning because it was a revolutionary explosion, but when it became a movement for the independence of tens of thousands of people in order to add a new mini-Arab state, we found this demand not encouraging for us or the entire nation. With 20 states, there is no need to add a 21st state, another mini-state. We are protesting against the existence of all these statelets, which should be one single state. So how can we accept the addition of another small state?

Having said that, the inhabitants of Saqia al-Hamra and Rio de Oro are human beings, and they are a people whose will must be respected. We must not invade them or attack them as we would attack a flock of sheep or wild animals. This is the reason why we in fact supported the stands of the Polisario [words indistinct] because the will of this people must be respected, regardless of whether it is great or small. The human will and aspirations are not measured in numbers; these things are moral and not material. The Sahrawi people must have the right to self-determination, and in this we agree with the Algerian leadership; we agree on the need for the Sahrawi people's self- determination. I believe that the current measures are aimed at giving the Sahrawi people the opportunity to decide their future with a yes or a no. This is the right thing to do. All the efforts must be now made to ensure the success of the referendum, regardless of whether they say yes or no. This is the right thing to do in fact.

With regard to the Maghreb trends, we are indeed very glad, because the Arabs' awareness has reached a stage in which they know that unity is a necessity. We have been raising this slogan for the past 20 years, and we have been saying that unity is necessary and that these mini-states could not survive henceforth. The world has now turned into great blocs. Luckily, a great political, economic, and military bloc has emerged beside us—namely the EEC. This bloc might become a single state in 1992. This has provoked us and has brought home to the Arabs that the world had indeed turned into great blocs. [passage omitted]

If the unity of the Maghreb is not a step toward Arab unity, it will be incomplete, and it might even harm Arab national unity, because the colonialists are trying to prevent the Arab nation from being one nation. For a long time, the colonialists had been talking about the unity of the Fertile Crescent, the unity of the Nile Valley, and the unity of the Maghreb in order to incite the populists who did not believe they were Arabs. They hoped to see a populist movement set up a non-Arab state in north Africa, another non-Arab state in the Nile Valley, and a third state in the Fertile Crescent. The objective of all these unities was to see the populist non-Arab defeat the Arab. Obviously this is a big fallacy with regard to the Berbers in the Arab homeland; they are Arabs, especially in North Africa. We do not consider them a minority. I do not know how this topic is dealt with in Algeria. We do not consider the Berbers a minority. The minority is the one that does not belong to this nation; it is a minority of a different race, such as the Kurds or the Armenians—they are minorities. As for the Berbers, they are pre-Islam Arabs; consequently, we cannot consider them a minority at all. The historical evidence and testimonies confirm the Berbers' Arabism.

The Berbers in Libya are proud of their Arabism even more than the post-Islam Arabs, those who came with the Arab conquests. The former say: We are the true Arabs, and we have preserved the pure Arab blood and even our language, that is, the Tamazigh language, which is the old hamitic language from the southern Arabian peninsula. They are proud in the Jabal Nafusah in Libya, this new generation is proud to say that they are true Arabs and that they did not mingle with other races.

As for the other Arab migrations, they mingled with other populations on their way to the Levant, the Fertile Crescent and North Africa, and these Arab communities remained isolated in the Tizi Aozou Strip, in Jabal Nafusah, and in the Moroccan mountains because they were settled in North Africa before the Romans invaded this region and chased them away to the mountains to which they withdrew. They did not mingle with the Romans, and they used to raid the Roman colonies in the plains and on the coast from the mountains. Subsequently, the Romans named them Berbers or barbarians, that is, those who pillage the property of the Roman colonialists in North Africa. It is the Romans who named those Arabs Berbers. We have historical evidence which shows every Berber tribe is an Arab tribe which originated in Yemen and the southern Arabian peninsula. [passage omitted]

The unity of the Maghreb is a step on the path to the unity of the Arab nation and an awakening which meets the exigencies of our peoples and their pressing need for this unity. If this unity is not achieved before 1992, we will stay well behind Europe, and we will not even be capable of commercial dealings with it because we will not have anything to sell to or buy from it and will remain behind. Therefore, this unity must be achieved, a real unity, before 1990 [as heard] and we must realize Arab unity and liberate Palestine. History will record that this unity is owed essentially to Brother Chadli Bendjedid and his comrades because it is in fact they who, with all faith and sincerity, managed to achieve this unity. You know that since the age of 19 I have been fighting for Arab unity. I have tried to change this map, but there was no response. You remember the unities which were established and which were aborted.

When we announced that there will be unity between Libya and Algeria, did you see how the United States reacted: It openly said that the United States will not allow such unity to be established, and it will oppose it because this unity threatens U.S. and Western interests. In other words, we have to remain divided and backward to serve their interests. It also means that we should die and that they should sacrifice us for their own interests.

But this has created a challenge for Algeria and us. Therefore, this unity must be established despite the United States. We too have interests. Fragmentation threatens our interests, and their power and their imperialism also threaten our interests and threaten even our existence on earth. Consequently, the U.S. statements reinforced the challenge in Libya and in Algeria and our determination that this unity must be established in defiance of the United States.

I testify that we owe the leadership of this unity to Brother Chadli Bendjedid and Messaadia and his other comrades. Fortunately, this was given a new impetus and new strength with the 7 November movement in Tunisia. This has given a new and strong impetus to unity and has removed an obstacle in the way of Arab unity. I express my gratitude to my Brother Chadli and to Zine el Abidine Ben Ali for his brave action.

[Question] Brother colonel, after the convening of the first Maghreb summit in Algiers and the meeting of the higher political committee, the Jamahiriyah is hosting the proceedings of the subcommittee given the task of Maghreb constituent bodies. Brother colonel, in your opinion, what is the most useful structural framework which would respond ideally to the total political and economic requirements for the building of the Arab Maghreb?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I have 19 years of intensive and serious experience in mammoth unionist work. I have reached the conclusion that the important thing is to find a political framework which can exploit economic capabilities to create progress and prosperity for the Arab citizen within this political framework, and then to build up the defense capabilities to protect the citizen and his homeland from external threats. After that, it does not matter whether this country is a jamahiriyah, another a republic, another a kingdom, and another a sultanate. It does not matter. All obstacles to the movement of citizens, capital, and everything that exists on land—even the movement of animals for pasture, selling, or trading—and to fishing and other things among these countries must be removed. This sea and this land must become the property of all the citizens of these countries. There may be a sultan, a king, an amir, or president. This does not matter in relation to experience which I truly respect [words indistinct]. It is the framework that must bring together the economic capabilities which create progress and prosperity for the citizen and must bring together the other material capabilities to defend this homeland and this citizen. In fact, this is what concerns, whatever happens after that. [sentence as heard]

Personally, I will not be president and will not return to a political or administrative position because I have rejected this even in Libya. I work from a revolutionary position. I lead the revolution and incite the masses. This matter is decided not by edict or by appointment. I do not care who becomes president or ruler. I do not even care if it is a kingdom, sultanate, or empire. These are names and [word indistinct] has affirmed that they are forms. We must not interfere in the affairs of any of these countries. If workers were oppressed, I mean exploited, in a country, they will revolt against their exploiters. If their condition is good, fine. If people are oppressed, they will resist [word indistinct]. Consequently, there is no need for us to say that workers must be partners in this state. It is clear that partners, not wage-earners is the fundamental solution. Fortunately there is similarity in the progress of the two countries.

The political and economic bases in the two countries stem from the same sources. Self-management in Algeria is basically the beginning of the jamahiri system. It is the foundation of the jamahiri system. We call Algeria the state of popular councils and Libya the state of people's congresses. The difference between them is slight. When councils are extended and their membership includes the whole population, they become congresses. There is great similarity even in this sphere.

I consider the Algerian charter a very useful, practical, and political plan of action for unionist implementation [tatbiq wahdawi] between the two countries, in the region, and in the Arab homeland. [passage omitted]

The Algerian charter is a plan of action which we must implement as of today. Henceforth it must be implemented in Libya and Algeria because it is a political and economic plan. As for the Green Book, it is a theory; a theory which perhaps may only be implemented after 100 years. It is a theory which [words indistinct]. It is a theory which advocates the creation of a new era, the jamahiri era. Power would belong to the people, wealth would belong to the people, everything would belong to the people. Generally speaking, the three chapters of the Green Book are clear. Also, the Green Book was never intended to be implemented. It must be read only—to be read in Libya and Algeria, and maybe another generation will implement it. Even in Libya we have made great strides without being able to implement the Green Book. It is (?not) even necessary to implement it in Libya [word indistinct]. Generally speaking, it is a theory and ideology.

As for the charter, we can implement it as of today. There is no objection to it. I would say: Let the Algerian charter be circulated to all libraries and cultural centers in Libya, in all popular circles [word indistinct]. It is a brilliant plan of action. [passage omitted]

[Question] Brother Colonel, we expect a Maghreb summit before the end of this year. What can we expect from this summit in the way of a new impetus?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] It is not important whether it is held or not; what is important is that the working committees accomplish their work. The summit gave the green light and entrusted these committees to work on envisioning and establishing Maghreb unity. If they accomplish

anything that requires that we meet, we will meet. There is no longer a problem for us to meet. Should we one day contact each other, there will be no big problem; we can meet at any of our homes. We are brothers, and we are close to each other, and thank God, there are no problems. We talk on the phone continually among ourselves, and we can meet at any time—we, the five. In other words, it does not interest us if a summit is held or not; what concerns us is that the committees accomplish their work. This is what matters.

[Question] The relations of cooperation and complementarity between the two fraternal people, the Algerian and Libyan peoples, have continued to develop in line with their expectations and in an embodiment of the will of the Algerian and the Libyan revolutions, especially since the historic meeting between you and President Chadli Bendjedid at In Amenas in 1986. Can you, Brother Colonel, evaluate the steps that have been accomplished and the scope for achieving the strategic objectives of the Arab nation?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] In general, as a result of the meetings, the dialogue, and the serious interactions between the Algerian and the Libyan revolutions, we are now about to present a draft for unity and the creation of one state between Libya and Algeria. This is recorded in the draft of the unionist constitution for a one state—and Tunisia might join us in setting up this state, because of the events of 7 November. Tunisia was backward and has now become progressive, and consequently, there is no obstacle, no reason, to make Tunisia stand apart from joining in founding the unionist state.

The three of us might set up a unionist state and be at the same time in a Maghreb unity that brings together Morocco and Mauritania, and see the fate of the Sahara [Al-Qadhdhafi laughs]: Shall we say it is a state, part of the region?

Thus this struggle has indeed influenced what we see now: The brothers in Algeria informed us that on 1 September 1989 a celebration will be held on the artificial borders created of course by the French, the English, and the Italians, to abolish the borders and the need for passports, and to move with an identity card. This gave us great pleasure, and we consider this a salute and a present from the revolutionaries of Algeria for the Al-Fatih anniversary. [passage omitted]

[Question] Brother Colonel, regarding the unionist action between Algeria and the Jamahiriyah and then the agreement during the meeting of the supreme Libyan-Algerian committee on drawing up a timetable for the preparation of a unionist plan, can you talk to us about the expected steps for achieving this unionist plan?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] The steps according to the agreements are: The plan will be submitted to the masses for discussion, then a referendum will be held on it in the following period. If the referendum is successful—that is a yes vote—then this state will be set up. Indeed when you open the map and see that Algeria and Libya will become one state—this will be an extremely important event in the whole world—indeed a superpower, thanks to your efforts, God willing, and your determination, inspired by the souls of the martyrs, the 1 and ½ million martyrs and their pure blood [words indistinct] then God willing, success will be the fate of this great historic action. [passage omitted]

[Question] Brother Leader, President Chadli Bendjedid's initiative in calling for convening the uprising conference in Algeria had a positive impact in clearing the Arab air and assisting the struggle of the Palestinian people. What is your assessment of the summit's results, and what is its effect on the uprising and the Arab struggle? Moreover, what are the practical steps that have been taken by the brother colonel to implement the decisions of this summit? Thank you.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I expressed myself about this in the closing speech of the Algiers summit conference. However, the implementation of these decisions is up to the Arab rulers who decided this. I give my brother struggler Chadli Bendjedid the responsibility for overseeing these decisions concerning the uprising because he now heads these efforts. The summit was held in Algeria under his chairmanship. This national responsibility therefore falls on him. We will help and assist him in [words indistinct].

[Question] The presence of the current OAU chairman at the deliberations of the uprising conference in Algeria is a confirmation of a clear political will which aims at consolidating the Afro-Arab relations of cooperation. What ways do you see, Brother Colonel, for consolidating this cooperation?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] The Arabs should give more to the Africans because they are under-developed, because they were colonized, because Western imperialism tried to exploit and recruit them against the Arabs and to inspire in them a racist spirit in accordance with the principle of divide and rule, that wicked imperialist principle. Consequently, we should defeat imperialism in Africa and show that, despite being Arabs, we are also Africans. This is our continent, its freedom is indivisible, and its wealth belongs to us all and should not continue to be exhausted and robbed by the imperialist powers. As Arabs, we should provide more help and assistance to the south African, Namibian and poor African peoples such as those of Niger, Chad, Mali, and elsewhere, especially those countries on our borders.

The Libyan initiative toward Chad, in fact, does not fall outside this deep understanding of this subject. We have interfered in some inter-African problems. This has harmed us, and we have the courage to criticize ourselves and say that Libya's intervention in the conflict between Goukouni and Habre harmed us as Arabs. In fact, we should rectify this mistake. We used to be on the side of Goukouni, Habre, Acheikh ibn Omar and others, and the

entire Frolinat against French imperialism. However, since a faction of Frolinat reached power in Ndjamena, we should not have been embroiled in conflicts because we found that these conflicts to be endless. Today Goukouni and Habre fight; tomorrow Goukouni and Acheikh ibn Omar will fight; the day after, Acheikh ibn Omar and I do not know who will fight. Thus, they are endless because of the tribes and ethnic groups and so forth.

Once upon a time, Libya was embroiled in a conflict between Uganda and Tanzania. We consider that wrong. Time has now passed since then, but we consider it wrong. However, we supported the revolution in Uganda, and the revolution succeeded. We still stand by that. I mean, we should support any popular revolution against reaction and imperialism. However, when it is a state against a state, to be aligned with one state against another state, even if there were a difference—one a reactionary state and the other [word indistinct] state—as far as we are concerned, we as Arabs, as Africans, we should not embroil ourselves in conflicts such as these.

We should offer a helping hand to the Africans and combat the Zionist influence which is now infiltrating Africa, using our intervention in some of these conflicts. Thank God we have courage and self-confidence which enables us to criticize ourselves publicly, declaring our mistakes and saying that we have now understood those mistakes and that we will work to extend a helping hand to our African brothers.

[Question] The international community in general, and the Arab and Islamic peoples in particular, felt optimistic with the implementation of the recent cease-fire agreement in the Iraq-Iran war which put an end to the bloody 8-year war which raged between Iraq and Iran, leaving thousands of dead Muslim brothers in Iraq and Iran. How do you see, Brother Colonel, the region's future from the aspect of its security and development, in light of the current international efforts to establish peace in the Gulf region?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] When the matter becomes one of borders, we do not expect it to be settled quickly, because borders are an inherited problem. I regret that since the cease-fire and the halting of the war, the issue of borders has been raised: Where does the border lie? Is it in the middle of the Shatt al-Arab, or is it on its eastern bank? In fact I became pessimistic when I heard that this border issue had been raised.

But I was pleased with the cease-fire, because I myself had exerted intensive efforts with both sides, especially the Iranian side, to end this war. And when Iran accepted the cease-fire, the Iranian president sent me a letter, which was broadcast and you, of course, heard it. He said that it was in response to my persistent and repeated calls for them to halt the war and accept the Security Council resolution that they had accepted the cease-fire. I thanked him for this response to our repeated calls. But now I fear there might be acts of blackmail, immoral actions that might occur during the negotiations.

Indeed I was depressed and felt pessimistic, particularly when the border issue was raised—that it should be dealt with first before settling the other issues. This is putting the cart before the horse. I hope that the opposite will happen and the cart put behind the horse. We must exert efforts for the sake of this; Libya has undertaken to place its capabilities to remove any obstacle at Iraq and Iran's disposal. We may intervene any time now in the interest of reaching a settlement between the two Islamic countries, whose common enemies are Zionism, U.S. imperialism, and the Israelis.

[Question] Brother Colonel, the hostile Western media practice hegemony and distort the facts and the Arab image. In opposition to this, how do you envision drawing up a unified Arab information policy, capable of confronting these practices and defending the comprehensive causes of the Arab nation? Thank you.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] A long time ago I demanded ....[changes thought] When King Khalid visited us, I said at the dinner banquet that we Arabs must speak in one language to the world. We may speak various languages among ourselves as a result of the interactions, contradictions, and alliances existing between the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf, because we are one people and one homeland in which there are kingdoms, republics, jamahiriyahs, sultanates, emirates, and various alliances. This puts us, of course, in continuous interaction until all of these matters are settled and the contradictions and oppositions are removed. But with the world, as Arabs we should speak in one tongue with the United States, the USSR, Europe, and Africa—this includes the information media. But this call, of course, remained a mere call. I still insist that we should speak in one tongue. But of course there is a difficulty: the diversity in political wills and their contradictory nature makes everyone express this contradiction in the media. [passage omitted]

[Question] This is the last question. Brother Colonel, since its inception the Libyan Arab revolution has been eager to provide material and moral support for national liberation movements, primarily the Palestinian revolution. How do you perceive the situation in the light of the new developments and the plan of action for the uprising to continue and for the Palestinian people to realize their state under the PLO's leadership? Thank you.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I believe that there should be an instrument [adat] for the Palestinian revolution that would bring together all Palestinians. I do not reject the establishment of a Palestinian state or government, but it must be an instrument of struggle, not of [word indistinct] and submission. It must come from the heart of the Palestinian revolution, which is the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The revolutionaries there must express themselves to the world by establishing this instrument, and the

Palestinian resistance inside and outside should turn into a Palestinian liberation army. All PLO offices must be turned into Palestinian embassies. It must become an instrument of fighting and struggling to liberate Palestine from the river to the sea, and it must be nothing other than this.

[Question] Allow me to express our deep gratitude. Would you address the Algerian people on this occasion?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I am grateful to you. The Algerian people are my people and brothers. I am no stranger to them in sending them greetings from afar. We live together with our hearts and swords side by side. [passage omitted]

GDR Delegation To Discuss Missile Production

JN0609150288 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 5 Sep 88 p 3

[Text] Cairo, AL-ITTIHAD—AL-ITTIHAD has learned from informed Egyptian sources that a GDR military delegation will arrive in Libya within days to resume bilateral cooperation in the field of the production of intermediate range surface-to-surface missiles.

The sources said that during the visit, the GDR delegation will discuss special arrangements for testing surface-to-surface missiles produced for the Libyans. The sources added that the steps for producing these missiles began in Libya a while ago and that tests were conducted on missile prototypes, which achieved a range of 80 km. However, the sources went on to say that the steps for manufacturing the missiles reached a standstill when the Libyans sought to conclude a similar missile deal with the PRC. But Libya, encouraged by the Soviet Union, the sources said, chose to resume activities pertaining to implementing the missile plan after U.S. pressure was exerted on Beijing to prevent it from selling these missiles to Arab states.

Al-Qadhdhafi Holds Talks With Tunisian Minister

LD0309190188 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Sep 88

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has received brother Habib Ammar, minister of state for interior of fraternal Tunisia, and his accompanying delegation who attended the the Libyan Arab people's celebrations marking the Great 1 September Revolution.

Ammar, Delegation Depart

LD0309182988 Tripoli JANA in English 1456 GMT 3 Sep 88

[Text] Tripoli, al-Fatih 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Habib Ammar, the Tunisian minister of state in charge of the interior, and Abderrahim Zouari, the secretary general of the Destourian Democratic Alliance in Tunisia, and the delegation in their company left Tripoli after participating the Libyan Arab people its celebration of the 19th anniversary of the Great al-Fatih Revolution upon the request of the Tunisian President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali.

Heading the party seeing off Habib Ammar and Abderrahim Zouari and the delegation in their company was Major Al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi.

Also taking part in the party seeing off the Tunisian delegation were the secretary for the affairs of the people's congresses at the General People's Congress, the secretary of the General People's Committee for planning, the secretary of the People's Committee for Justice in Tripoli Municipality, the general commissioner of Great Jamahiryah to Tunisia, the general commissioner of Tunisia and members of the Tunisian Commission in Great Jamahiryah.

Habib Ammar made a statement before he left reiterating the congratulations of President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali, the Tunisian government and people in sisterly Tunisia to the leader of the revolution and the Libyan Arab people on the occasion of the 19th anniversary of the Great al-Fatih Revolution.

He said, "I would like, with my colleague the secretary general of the Destourian Democratic Alliance, to take this opportunity to present our many thanks to the leader of the revolution whom we had the honour to be received by him in the same generosity and welcome he always met us with. [no closing quotation mark, sentence as received]

He added, "Furthermore, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the leader of the revolution for the happy surprise extended to me this morning by my brotherly free officers in the name of the brother leader adorning me with the medal of courage. It was happy surprise to me as this medal is the greatest given to me in the last [word indistinct] years in my military life. I consider this medal superior to my modest person. It is directed to President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali the maker of the 7th November and to the Arab people in Tunisia who were suffering before the 7th November like the free officers before the great Al-Fatih. [no closing quotation marks as received]

He reaffirmed that the Arab people in Great Jamahiriyah and Tunisia have become one people and that the leader of the revolution and President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali are linked with fraternal ties and working sincerely towards this direction.

Habib Ammar concluded his statement by expressing his thanks and gratitude to the Libyan Arab people and the leader of the revolution for the warm and good reception extended to the Tunisian Arab delegation wishing the Libyan Arab people every progress and prosperity.

AL-Qadhdhafi Meets Visiting Delegations

Panamanians Bring Messages

PA0209014188 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Sep 88

[Text] Libyan chief of state Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has met with members of the Anti-Imperialist Tribunal of Our America [TANA] at the Libyan presidential palace. The TANA delegation is comprised of 14 prominent Latin American figures.

Information concerning the meeting was received by Radio Nacional [Panama Domestic Service] through a telex sent by our colleague Alvaro Menendez Franco, who along with lawyer Marcelino Jaen are in Libya representing our country.

The telex states that TANA President Guillermo Toriello Garrido presented Col al-Qadhdhafi with a certified copy of the ruling issued by TANA, which conducted a trial against U.S. President Ronald Wilson Reagan between 28 and 30 August. Reagan was tried because his administration carried out a most terrible crime against the lives and property of peaceful Libyans on 15 April 1986.

Col al-Qadhdhafi said that although TANA does not have compelling power, it has an effective moral power before the world's peoples and governments.

Col al-Qadhdhafi added that U.S. President Ronald Reagan is a coward who orders night attacks on peaceful Libyans, who were sleeping and resting from the day's work, but does not attend the trial to face and respond to the charges against him. It is easy to send soldiers to kill people, but it is difficult to explain his decision to judges who act in response to world public opinion.

Through poet Carlos Wong, the Panamanian delegation delivered a strong embrace sent by General Manuel Antonio Noriega to Col al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, which celebrates its 19th anniversary today. Early in the morning of 1 September 1969, a military group headed by Col al-Qadhdhafi took power.

The telex concludes by saying that Col al-Qadhdhafi stated that the ruling condemning Reagan will be shown to the entire world and published in every possible language.

Sudan Sends Al-Banna

LD0409095488 Tripoli JANA in English 0833 GMT 4 Sep 88

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Fatih 4, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution received Dr Idris al-Banna, the vice president of the Sudanese State Council and the delegation of his company.

The delegation of sisterly Sudan came to Great Jamahiriyah to attend the celebrations of the 19th anniversary of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution and the 10th anniversary of the producers revolution.

The leader of the revolution headed the prayers of the Sudanese delegation at dusk.

JANA on Burkinabes

LD0409095888 Tripoli JANA in English 0836 GMT 4 Sep 88

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Fatih 4, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution received the delegation of the Jamahiriyah of Burkina Faso headed by the minister of planning and rural cooperation who attended the celebrations of the 19th anniversary of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution and the 10th anniversary of the producer-partners revolution.

The Burkinabe delegation includes the wife of President Blaise Compaore, the president of the Jamahiriyah of Burkina Faso, and the minister of defence and his wife, the minister of the civil service and the secretary of the presidential council.

Intra-Gulf Affairs

GCC Holds Ministerial Council Session in Riyadh

Saudi Minister Opens Session

LD0409203288 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1726 GMT 4 Sep 88

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 4 Sep (SPA)—The GCC Ministerial Council began its 28th session this evening at the Council General Secretariat in Riyadh in the presence of the GCC foreign ministers. His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the [Saudi] foreign minister and chairman of the session, opened the meeting with the following address:

Praise be to God and prayers and peace be on the last of the prophets. Your highnesses and excellencies, brother secretary general, brothers:

It is my pleasure to welcome all of you to our country, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. We are happy that you are here today to attend the 28th session of the GCC Ministerial Council. [passage omitted] Our meeting today is particularly important because it comes amid developments and fresh changes on the Arab and Gulf scene. The Gulf region is witnessing an important and prominent event—Iran has responded to international law and accepted UN Security Council Resolution 598 to stop fighting and end the war. [passage omitted]

Today, after Iran's acceptance of Security Council Resolution 598, we hope to see security, peace, and stability return to our region. We also sincerely hope that Iran's decision will be a fresh start for bri[illegible]ng people together and strengthening friendship between all peoples of the Islamic nation. An end to the war is not enough if it is not backed by a new spirit that respects good-neighborliness, and shuns aggression, sabotage, and interference in the internal affairs of neighbors. We must strive for the unity of Muslims and direct efforts toward benefitting them and increasing their prestige.

While we welcome the start of direct talks between Iraq and Iran in Geneva, we sincerely hope that the two states will arrive at a formula to end the conflict, bring about honorable peace, and settle all problems that led to the armed conflict between them, according to Security Council Resolution 598. [passage omitted]

On the Arab scene—precisely, in Palestinian territory—the biggest uprising of the Palestinian people began last December against Zionist occupation and the entire Israeli military machine and brutal force. The Palestinian people have experienced all kinds of repression, torture and savage treatment far beyond historic records. From the start, the GCC stressed its backing and support for the uprising with all available means and GCC countries have given material, political and moral assistance to the uprising. Also, the emergency Arab summit was held in Algiers in June and its resolutions met the aspirations of the uprising's people. It is considered the summit for Palestine. The Arab summit stressed anew the basic tenets of the Arab peace project that strives for comprehensive, permanent and just peace in the Middle East. These tenets were adopted by the Arab summit conference in Fes in 1982. The summit stressed continuing support for the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. Now that the uprising is 10 months old, we again stress that we fully support the continuity of the uprising, the will of the Palestinian people, and all that serves the Palestinian cause and fulfills the hopes and desires of the Palestinian people to retrieve their usurped land and establish a state. [passage omitted]

The developments the region has passed through have proved the extent of dangers facing the Cooperation Council's countries. This issue particularly emphasizes the importance of coordination and cooperation in Gulf security and the need to strengthen our capabilities to defend our entity against any existing or potential perils within the framework of the agreed defense integration. It is a source of satisfaction and relaxation that cooperation in that field is proceeding according to plan. [passage omitted]

Following His Highness's speech, the council held a closed session to discuss the topics on the agenda.

Council Views Gulf Security

LD0409215088 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2120 GMT 4 Sep 88

[Text] Riyadh, 4 Sep (SPA)—His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said that at their first meeting the GCC foreign ministers discussed agenda topics related to economic, cultural, and information aspects. He added in a press statement after the first meeting, that the Ministerial Council will prepare resolutions on the topics which will be issued later. His Royal Highness added that the ministers will hold their next meeting tomorrow morning, God willing.

His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal noted that the countries of the council are concerned about peace between Iraq and Iran because the region's security was and still is threatened by the tension of the war. He expressed satisfaction with the cease-fire between Iraq and Iran and the negotiations between them in Geneva, stressing the GCC countries' interest that was and is still aimed at ending the war and reaching a comprehensive peace agreement. He noted that the council's countries are exerting continuous efforts in this regard—particularly at this critical period—and they are conducting contacts with the concerned countries and with the UN secretary general.

Session Ends, Issues Released

LD0509174088 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1508 GMT 5 Sep 88

[Text] Riyadh, 5 Sep (SPA)—The GCC Ministerial Council concluded its 28th session this evening at the council's general-secretariat headquarters in Riyadh,

under the chairmanship of Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and in the presence of their excellencies the GCC foreign ministers. GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah read a press release at the end of the session:

The Ministerial Council held its 28th session in Riyadh between 23-24 Muharram 1409, corresponding to 4-5 September 1988, under the chairmanship of His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister and chairman of the current Ministerial Council, and with all members present.

The Ministerial Council reviewed all topics on the agenda for this session, foremost of which was the region's current situation. It noted with great satisfaction recent positive developments brought about by Iran's acceptance of UN Security Council Resolution 598 and its compliance with the UN secretary general in this matter. The council also expressed its belief that what has been achieved so far by the cease-fire is an important step in reaching comprehensive and just peace between the two parties and hoped that an agreement over arrangements for comprehensive and lasting peace in the region would be reached through current negotiations in Geneva under the UN secretary general's auspices. In this respect, the Ministerial Council expresses support for the UN secretary general's efforts and a willingness to work seriously with all concerned parties to consolidate peace and stability in this vital region of the world. Because of the Ministerial Council's conviction of the special responsibility that GCC member states should shoulder to safeguard world peace and security, the council calls on these countries to work harder to secure the success of these negotiations and the comprehensive implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 598.

The council also debated the current Arab situation and developments concerning the Palestinian Arab people. The council, while recalling the resolution of their majesties and highnesses at the eighth summit in Riyadh to support the uprising politically and materially so that it can achieve its goals, expresses pride in the valiant steadfastness of the resistance against tyrannical and suppressive Israeli measures. The Palestinians' steadfastness provides the best proof of the Palestinian people's rejection of the occupation and their insistence on inalienable national rights. The council believes that this uprising constitutes a new reality that makes it imperative to speed up the convening of a peace conference under UN auspices and with the participation of all parties concerned—including the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative—on an equal footing. This should be done with the participation of permanent members of the UN Security Council. The conference is the only appropriate way to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict peacefully, justly, and comprehensively.

The council also discussed the situation in fraternal Lebanon and expressed regret over what the fraternal Lebanese people are experiencing because of this regrettable situation. The council calls on all Lebanese to give Lebanon's interest priority over other considerations and make sincere efforts to escape this bloody dilemma and quickly reach a solution that ensures security, stability, territorial integrity, and sovereignty for fraternal Lebanon and preserves its Arabism. While reaffirming its stand with Lebanon in its dilemma, the council calls on the international community to help make available the necessary humanitarian aid needed by the Lebanese people.

The council welcomes the positive development in the Arab Maghreb region and hopes that this will lead to consolidation of the joint Arab march to realize the interests of the people of the fraternal Arab Maghreb.

The council has reviewed the implementation of the unified economic agreement and decided to recommend to the higher council in its ninth session to adopt the rules permitting citizens of GCC countries to buy and deal in shares of joint-stock companies. Another recommendation will be submitted for equal tax treatment between citizens of guest member countries and citizens of other council member countries, according to the unified economic agreement. In the domain of economic cooperation with other states and comunities, the council expressed satisfaction over the cooperation agreement between GCC members and the EEC. It recommended that the higher council adopt it. On the other hand, the council expresses deep sorrow over natural disasters that hit Sudan and Bangladesh, leading to losses in lives and property. The council fully stands by them out of feelings of Islamic ties and in a spirit of brotherhood and solidarity. The council expresses sincere condolences for the Islamic people of Pakistan over the death of President Muhammad Ziaul Haq. The Islamic and Arab nation lost a sincere leader and loyal friend.

Out of the council's eagerness to review results of the ministerial committees meetings, and out of a wish to provide more time for consultations, the council has decided to hold an extraordinary meeting on 1 November 1988.

Issued in Riyadh on 24 Muharram 1409 Hegire, corresponding to 5 September 1988.

Soviet Union Said To Supply MiG-29 Planes
JN0709150588 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 6 Sep 88 p 1

[Text] Beirut, AL-QABAS—East European diplomats in West Beirut have told AL-QABAS that the Soviet Union supplied Iraq with a squadron of MiG-29 planes after Iran announced in late July its acceptance of the cease-fire in the Gulf as provided for in UN Security Council Resolution No 598.

Geneva Negotiations Focus on 'Details'
JN0709122588 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1137 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Text] Geneva, 7 Sep (INA)—Therese Gastaut, director of information at the UN European headquarters in Geneva, has said that UN mediator Jan Eliasson is continuing to hold unofficial contacts with the members of the Iraqi and Iranian sides to the negotiations. She said that the discussions are still focused on details, that there is a dire need for the participation of the experts at this stage, and that details are very important during the discussions. Gastaut said that Eliasson met with the British representative at the UN European headquarters in Geneva today within the framework of his contacts with the representatives of the UN Security Council five permanent member states.

Eliasson has met with the U.S., French, PRC, and USSR representatives during the past 2 days.

Saddam Addresses Arab Ministers on 'Solidarity'
JN0709111088 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Speech by President Saddam Husayn at 23d Session of the Arab Information Ministers Council in Baghdad; date not given—recorded]

[Text] President Saddam Husayn has affirmed that the basis of Arab strength emanates from the spirit of the new joint Arab action and the strength of any Arab country lies in its solidarity and interaction with its Arab brothers.

In a speech delivered today at a reception he hosted for participants in the 23d session of the Arab Information Ministers' Council, his excellency the president said that there is no real Arab strength except that supported by the Arabs and the strength of every Arab comes from his own strength as well as that of the Arabs. The Arab nation does not transgress dignity. The Arabs respect their own dignity and do not humiliate the dignity of any people or nation. He voiced hope that the Iraq-Iran cease-fire will lead to lasting and comprehensive peace that safeguards the dignity of both the Iranians and the Arabs. His Excellency President Saddam Husayn said that the course pursued by the Arab nation is based on the pursuit of peace, affection, enlightenment, and interaction—not on hegemony and aggression.

The president affirmed that the holes in the Arab wall are poverty and fear of the external enemy who is hostile to the Arabs—things caused by forgetting the strength of the Arabs as a whole. Another hole in the Arab wall, the president added, is the fear that the Arabs will fail to progress in scientific and technological fields.

His excellency the president said that what is required is not to preoccupy the existing structure, not to disintegrate the existing fiber, but rather to look for a gigantic joint tent that covers and transcends all other tents without undermining any of our national tents, be they Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, the UAE, or the biggest or smallest Arab country.

Brother ministers, brother representatives of the Arab countries, sisters and brothers in this esteemed audience: I welcome you in your country, in Baghdad—your Baghdad. When I welcome you, I do not consider whether your countries are far or near because we in Iraq consider all the Arabs—whether from the farthest part of the Arab Maghreb or from the Arab East—very close to Baghdad. We view this from the premise of history's moral, spiritual, and material realities and from the premise of this age's realities. The most prominent of these realities is your presence in Baghdad, armed with the spirit of the new joint Arab action—the essence of our strength, irrespective of the remoteness of any Arab country from us, the density of its population, or its military might. Any Arab country's strength depends on its relations of solidarity and interaction with its brothers. Every one of us derives his strength from his own stregnth as well as that of the Arabs. I say this with full conviction because there can be no real strength other than that which the Arabs as a whole nurture and create through interaction. As you know, the strength the Arabs seek is not brute force. It is enlightened strength that basically comes after development, seeks to fulfill our nation's humanitarian needs, and participates as best as it can in the march of mankind by offering this march its expertise and the potentialities it can contribute in terms of its concepts. This is the strength I speak of. It would be better to call it ability.

We Arabs have many systems and inclinations. However, what is required of all of us is not to cancel the present structure and tear up the present fabric but to place a large tent over all other tents. Thus, this large tent will encompass all the other tents without harming our national tents whether in Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, the UAE, or in the largest or smallest Arab country. Previously—prompted by enthusiasm and a sincere desire to better our status as Arabs—some of us might have thought of abolishing some tents in order to build the big tent. However, the genuine experience and the realistic and principled perspective dictate that we search for a beautifully-decorated tent that might serve as another fence covering our tents without affecting the peculiarities of each tent, thereby providing another agent protecting our tents from changing weather conditions. What is the nature of this tent? The basic foundation of such a tent is

the constructive fraternal sentiment among the Arabs. This sentiment necessitates that we demonstrate tolerance among ourselves when any of us makes mistakes. It also stipulates that we work together to understand the factors which render any of us weak in the face of a certain situation. It also dictates that we help him strengthen himself and requires us to guide the strong to make his strength an enlightened rather than tyrannical one. The most important component of enlightened strength is respecting the peculiarities of one's brothers and respecting all of one's brothers.

I believe that, without exception, we all need to be guided by a spirit that rises to the level of construction which we all in Iraq, Algeria, Mauritania, or other third world states aspire to attain. A comparison between us and the developed countries clearly shows us the current gap between the strides made in our countries and the strides made by developed countries. This quick, simplified, and relative comparison dictates that our strides be larger than those made by the developed countries. If we make strides on the road to progress similar in scale and enormity to the strides by developed countries, the distance between us and them will be maintained forever. Therefore, backwardness will be perpetuated. In this age of ours, things affect each other and play a role in adapting the economic, social, intellectual, and political life. We cannot blind ourselves to the level of backwardness plaguing us in contrast to the level attained by developed countries. Hence, our strides must take into account the strides made by France beginning with the first step and ending with its current status. We must not take as much time as France did to attain this level of progress and status. Attaining this level of progress in a shorter period of time can only be achieved when there is solidarity among us. Solidarity by itself is not enough. We must open our minds to each other through interaction and employ our potentials through cooperation.

Certainly, each of us, including the speaker who is an Arab citizen, has things inside him which pain him. He has wishes regarding steps that would improve the Arabs's status if taken by the Arabs. However, what is required is for us to search for a condition to enhance our status. Brothers, it does not suffice to see Saudi Arabia better than a number of Arab countries in terms of the scientific level attained or in terms of other criteria, as if such a thing happens, conspiracies will focus on Saudi Arabia, and thus Saudi Arabia will be unable to withstand the conspiracies. According to the calculations of the nation's enemies, any process of renaissance, enlightenment, and capability that develops in any Arab state is bound to positively affect other states, considering the course of fraternal cooperation and that we are one nation, and also because of other considerations.

Therefore, the Arab nation's enemies make plans against any awakening on a level commensurate with its effect on the whole Arab nation and on the sound understanding that any state of awakening is for the nation as a whole and not a certain country, even if this awakening occurs in it. The wealth of Saudi Arabia evokes the ambitions of many, and a strong army in Iraq evokes the fears of many, according to their policy. They are the nation's enemies. They believe that when such wealth exists in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, or Algeria, it will be a source of power for the nation. This is true, but this wealth is not a source of aggression against other nations. Before we existed and before our present states were created, the Arab nation's trend had always been peace, love, and enlightenment—not hegemony. The trend has been interaction rather than aggression throughout the Arab nation's history. This generation cannot logically part with its history and become hostile the moment it possesses a financial, military, scientific, or other capability.

We are required to explain things, but we cannot change the enemies' minds or ambitions. Accordingly, a state of scientific uniqueness and progress in one, two, or three Arab countries poses some danger to this or that country. Therefore, these countries should immediately disseminate this scientific knowledge on the largest possible scale to protect themselves. They should not do so only in response to the principles of pan-Arab action, which dictate that the sons of the single nation benefit from any progress in any of the countries, but also to protect this or that country. According to the modern age of thought, the larger the area, the more easily a fait accompli can be imposed.

We are part of you and our experience is modest when compared with that of other brothers despite that 8 years of continuous battles provides one with an experience that perhaps could not have been obtained in such a time span. We believe that it is not in the pan-Arab interest to have breaches in our Arab domestic fence. Among these breaches we are suffering from is that there are poor people who cannot get a morsel to eat. Another breach in our Arab fence is that there still are those who fear a foreigner to the point that they forget that they derive their strength from the Arabs as a whole. Another breach that might exist in the Arab fence is that we may not proceed together toward scientific and technological advancement. It is natural that steps toward progress differ from one Arab country to the other because we have many regimes. This is only natural. But at least, the one who has achieved more progress should allow the other to benefit from it. If the one who has not achieved as much progress as the other and looks behind him for help but cannot find it, then this is a breach in our Arab fence. We have many such breaches in our Arab world. We can give many examples of this from our Arab life which constitute weak points which the foreigner can penetrate. The Arab who is afraid of his Arab brother will be exploited by the foreigner who will tell him that he will protect him. This means that the foreigner has penetrated through the breach of our fear of each other. The Arab who is hungry but whom the Arabs do not assist could seek assistance from the foreigner in exchange for many things at the expense of pan-Arab interests. I give examples which I do not want to mean that we must deal with Arab funds as if we are dealing with foreigners. We are one family. However, you know

that within the same family there are brothers who have posessions and obligations. Among these obligations is that when a brother faces economic difficulties, one of his other brothers must help him as he cannot bear to see his brother's family sleep with an empty stomach. However, this brother is not required to make his other brother as wealthy as he is. We are here speaking in practical terms. There is nothing in our Islamic religion which makes the brother dutybound to make his impoverished brother as wealthy as he is. However, he has some obligations—be it toward his brother, father, or his mother. As a result of brotherhood, we are experiencing these breaches from which the foreigner penetrates. We cannot account for everything in this meeting.

We learned from our field experience throughout the past 8 years of war that an Arab should not fear another Arab in the Arab homeland. This is because when an Arab fears another Arab, the first will bring in the foreigner. It is our duty when we see a frightened Arab to ask him: Who is scaring you? We are all your brothers are with you. If he is afraid of another Arab, we will go to this Arab party and say: Brother, leave your brother and do not clash with him to scare him. You are all one family. When your brother fears you, he will go and bring in the foreigner, and consequently, this foreigner will threaten our security whether this foreigner is Soviet, American, British, Iranian, or any other non-Arab. They are all foreigners, and will deal with Arab issues in their own interests. If this foreigner is from a major power, he will deal according to his global view, and if he is from a small country he will deal with Arab causes in his own interests, which he believes are more important than our Arab interests because he is from another people and another nation.

Among the most important issues we should be aware is interference in the internal affairs [of others]. I strongly say this now, because if I had said this with the same force 4 years ago people would have said that I was saying this in light of Iraq's circumstances because Iraq was fighting and did not want anybody to intervene in its internal affairs because it feared such interference. Now, however, circumstances are different, even though officially the war still exists and we have not reached a peace agreement with Iran to end the war officially so that each of us can live freely on his land and in his country. Iraq and Saudi Arabia, for example, do not interfere in each other's internal affairs. They will become an example for others. Then a third and a fourth country will follow suit. Interference in the internal affairs of others will remain a source of fear. If one of us wants to interfere in another party's internal affairs and this party does not find another Arab to help him against this interference, he will seek help from a foreigner to face this plague of interference in his own internal affairs.

All these ideas do not come in the form of statements, although, thanks be to God, we had them. We talked about these ideas in February 1980 in writing, and they were made public to the world—that is, 7 months before the war erupted. Nevertheless, we used to discuss with some of our brothers many ideas, including those on noninterference in internal affairs, but we did not follow them up with an interaction in opinion to see if they accepted them from us or imposed conditions on us to be assured that what we were saying was true and not merely for consumption under wartime circumstances, as I have said.

One of these ideas was that an Arab should not use his weapons against another Arab. O brother, if you want to test your weapons, you have the nation's many enemies. And against whom do you use your weapons? Against an Arab? Let the Arab feel that his brother's weapons, wherever they are, are his own to be used when he or his brother is in difficulty. One should not count the other's tanks as we do the foreigners'. He should not count how many planes, tanks, and guns his brother has and how many planes, tanks, and guns he should have to be prepared for combat. Such a state should be abolished in Arab relations, with the weapons in Libya, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, or Syria for the Arabs as a whole and not against the Arabs in any way whatsoever. We rejoice when we hear that the Egyptian Army has grown, because this Army will be for all of us. The enemy is now capable of making some of us fear the armies, weapons, money, and policy of others among us in one way or another despite the experience of an 8-year war and the Arab brothers' solidarity among themselves—and let us not say with their sisterly Iraq because Iraq is not outside the Arab state but part of it. Iraq acts in solidarity with the Arabs when it acts in solidarity with itself.

Of course, some of the brothers were able to see things as they are at an early stage. Some other brothers saw things as they are after a while. However, this gathering of yours, the previous gathering [not further identified], other previous gatherings, the solidarity demonstrated by the kings and presidents at summit conferences, and their solidarity which was not only demonstrated at summit conferences must be recalled. Some of our Arab brothers used to send us financial aid before we requested that aid or without our requesting that aid. The day will come when we will name these brothers if they do not mind. Some of them used to deal with politics as if they were in Baghdad and as if they were leading [the battle] in Baghdad displaying the same spirit to help since they believed that the cause was theirs.

The conflict with Iran did not arise because of gains which Baghdad sought to achieve. Nay, this conflict arose to defend Baghdad. Baghdad is their Baghdad, and it has become clear to them that the fall of Baghdad will not prompt Iranians to be satisfied, God forbid. Now, the picture is clear to you, and you know it. If they committed an aggression only against Baghdad, only against Iraq, it might have been said that there may be bilateral circumstances. But they perpetrated an aggression against all the Arabs with the exception of only a minority of the Arabs. The aggressions you heard about are only these aggressions. However, some aggressions

were perpetrated, but left unheard of. We know about these aggressions and our concerned brothers know about them too. However, they have not announced these aggressions for political or for psychological reasons or for special circumstances.

We are happy with this good gathering, a fraternal gathering that has a great significance and that, God willing, will bring great benefit to the Arab nation. All of us will benefit from it. Nobody can say that he will not benefit from fraternal interaction and solidarity among Arabs. Everybody will benefit from this. The biggest country, just as the smallest country, will benefit from this gathering.

As you know, the war is not just a confrontation between armies facing each other and creating a situation where victory will be the lot of the party which better organizes its army and whose armament is better and for the party which enjoys numerical superiority and other advantages, according to the calculations employed by old armies. In the past, armies used to comprise foreigners recruited from among conquered tribes and territory. They used to form mercenary armies which fight each other. Now, in view of the developments, the fighting begins from the home of any family in the two conflicting parties. Or it begins on the frontline, while having a depth in each house of ours. The combat has acquired this level of expansion, comprehensiveness, and vehemence. The conviction is that the military activities of armies must enjoy a depth involving the entire society. However, you, my brothers—prompted by other pan-Arab and political considerations—your role was clear in the results of this battle which you are praising. Every Arab has a stake in this battle.

The share, of course like other things such as belief, have levels. Each Arab will have a share in light of his contribution and in light of the effect of this result on the history of his descendants. After 100 years, when our descendants read the history they will say that the Arabs triumphed when the unjust people wanted to triumph over them. If the aggressors reached Baghdad, God forbid, you all would curse the officials in Baghdad first because they did not protect Baghdad. Baghdad is yours and any inch in Iraq is a part of your land wherever it is. History belongs to all of us. If we are defeated all our generations will suffer. We now read in the history that when the Islamic Arab armies entered Iraq, some Christian tribes became part of the Muslim army. Meanwhile, other tribes fought with the Persian army. This is found in history after 1,400 years. People can hide many things, but not in history. History records everything. Praise be to God for the result. As brother Chedli [Klibi] correctly said, the fighting stopped, but the war officially still exists. Iranian officials' statements remind us that the war still exists. But brothers, the main evil, the cloud that kills the green, has dropped its rain outside the Arab homeland. The sacrifices by your people in Iraq were inevitable. Your country Iraq remained steadfast and did not turn into a gateway for evil and prevented it from reaching other Arab countries. Some of you followed what took place and others did not. The evil was real, great, and unjust. This evil could have uprooted everything green in the Arab territory or even everything good in the Muslims' lands if, God forbid, it had reached the areas which they planned to reach. They were not easy. Their eyes and minds were blindfolded. They moved with great rancor.

Instead of blindfolding the Iraqis' eyes and minds, we opened their eyes to the maximum and their minds to the deepest depths that are connected with all links of the Arab history that invoke man's noble, good, and brave feelings so that we can confront this evil coming from the east. Praised be God for everything. We realized right from the start that the blindfolded eyes and minds may deceive those who are asleep, but the alert can through time cause a collapse in the bad ideological background on which they are based. This is what happened. Those with open eyes and minds can in time boost their conviction in their logic and the ideological background on which they are based and the just stand they adopt. But facts about those with blindfolded minds and eyes will through long battles and losses, in addition to news media including your media, begin to emerge from the flames of the battle that is eating up their bodies. These facts will become clear by instinct and by the enlightenment produced by the long time and long battles. Praised be God that with time we exposed them. We, your brothers, reached the same result as if we are reading it in a book. We said you will see that the enemy of God, Arabs, and Muslims will suddenly fall while standing and will not fall in stages. In only 3 months, the situation changed differently. We are not being boastful or arrogant. It is merely God's wish, because they followed an erroneous path.

Nevertheless, when they said we accept Resolution 598, we said we want to be assured if your acceptance was tactical or not. We are not spiteful. God the Almighty is the just arbiter in everything. Even an enemy on the personal, humanitarian level will not wish them well when he remembers the tragedies they caused for the Arabs and Iraqis. However, on the level of responsibility and faithful concept we disagree. We leave it for Almighty God to give the just verdict. In order to be assured about their intentions, some of those who do not have direct details on the quality of the mentality ruling Tehran said: Give them a chance and do not close the doors in their faces. A cease-fire after which we should do so and so. These are matters in which there are no conditions or haughtiness, but an assertion of rights to which a fighter would certainly not cede after an 8-year war experience. Among them is free navigation for the Iraqis in the Gulf without restrictions. It is a simple matter because cease-fire applies on the ground, at sea, and in the air. It is illogical that Iran enjoys all of its wide and long ports while Iraq, which has only a very simple outlet through which it wants to practice its ordinary work, is told: No, we do not allow you or else we will search your ships. If they search our ships we will send out our war fleet and catch their ships one by one. One of

our Arab brothers may say you have a fleet outside the Gulf, so bring it and let us search them from there, from Bab el Mandeb, or begin to search them from the Suez Canal. It is natural that the two sides should benefit from the cease-fire in a balanced manner and according to logic.

If the Iranians want a cease-fire at sea, where their trade, affairs, freedom, and dignity are unscathed as no one searches their vessels, and at the same time want to search Iraqi vessels, this means that the war has resumed. This means that if they search one vessel, the war will resume. This time the war will have a new communique, a communique that will not complete the communiques that had already been issued. We ask God that this may not take place. No one says that they are masters of the sea. No one recognizes that they are the masters of the sea. They are their own masters. They are masters on their territory, and in their territorial waters. We respect Their sovereignty. They must also respect the Arabs sovereignty on their territory and on their territorial waters, and must also respect the Arabs right to use the high seas. Iraq is part of the Arabs.

The first Iraqi ship sailed. They said that they will search this ship. We instructed the commander of the navy to make a statement. He said that such an action is serious and is similar to the childish actions you have carried out before 4 September 1980, and from 4 September 1980 until 22 September 1980 and you termed all this as not being war. There were dogfights in the air, tanks, guns, infantry, and strikes against our oil facilities on the Shatt al-'Arab. They did all this but claimed that this was not war. According to them, war began on 22 September. Several of their pilots were shot down over our territory and are now in Iraq. This is the first time that we announce that we have some of their pilots who are in Iraq. They were shot down before 22 September in dogfights. Their aircraft are in Iraq. In spite of this, they claim that this was not a war. They then attacked the vessel "Khawlah Bint al-Azwar", and this time, this meant war.

Another thing, we said that the Shatt al-'Arab is the only waterway we have to the world. It is natural that you go and come with your trade, your vessels and your navy. The international organization must be tasked with cleaning Shatt al-'Arab although if we want to be intransigent, we can say that the Iraqis will clean it, as it is our waterway. Despite this, we said let the United Nations clean the Shatt al-'Arab so that it becomes navigable. They say that Iraq is setting a precondition. What precondition? Is it the cease-fire? The entire world and not only us want you to say something about Resolution 598. You say that this is a resolution we do not recognize. You certainly remember what they said about this resolution, and all the excuses and conditions they put forth. Then you agreed to the cease-fire for military reasons that have nothing to do with any other calculations. You have agreed to it for military reasons because you have used all the Iranian soldiers. Even if they say that there is a company in Kermanshah [Bakhtaran], we will go there to capture it and kill any number. We want nothing. We do not have any designs. We have no reasons for not agreeing to the cease-fire or for not ending the war. Of course, their objective is to occupy Iraq, then move to the other Arab countries.

We are not pursuing any objective other than defending our territory, our sovereignty, and our dignity—indivisible from Arab territory, dignity, and security. Hence, we are happy. They are worried because we are happy. Why should not we be glad? Should we not be happy because the river of blood has stopped? You see this evil mind. They do not even like joy.

I have no idea whether you were acquainted with their speeches. It seems that some of you were not acquainted with them. They ask why the Iraqis are happy and what happened. Your bloodshed as well as ours has stopped. We are happy because the human and Iraqi bloodshed has stopped. Is this not good? They are disturbed because we are happy. It seems that they are still playing and they believe that their play can deceive people. They are making many statements these days and say that we deployed many men on the fronts. There is a story which says a man once asked a friend: Do you think such and such a thing is possible? His friend replied: Look son, we have already passed through all these forests and faced all kinds of animals, so nothing else scares us. If they want to scare the Arabs, they cannot do so. And if they want to scare the Iraqis, the Iraqis will not be afraid. They experienced the Iraqis throughout the past 8 years of war.

God willing, the cease-fire will lead to a permanent and lasting peace that will preserve the dignity of the Iranians and the Arabs. The Arabs are not a people who encroach on the dignity of others because they respect their own. The Arabs do not encroach on the dignity of any people or nation. But, if they want to scare us with the large size of the Army, many drums were beaten in 1982 and Basra, in their opinion as well as that of others, was finished with only an edict remaining to be issued by Khomeyni. The edict was issued, and Basra remained steadfast. In 1987, they said this was the year of decisiveness. Many people believed that with 1.5 million soldiers deployed on a front 100 km long and 5 km deep Iran would decide the battle. More than 400,000 soldiers were wounded, the rest were gone, and Basra remained. If they want to frighten us, we will not be afraid. If it is a matter of potentials; we have seen and smashed their best potentials. They cannot bring better potentialities. Iraq can bring greater potentials than the present ones, praise be to God. Even the agents whom they placed in the north and on whom they depended so that Iraq would deploy a number of divisions to face them were crashed and fled with them. The army in the north was an additional force for the army. Our objective was defensive only. We do not want to launch aggression against them nor do we have ambitions on any inch of Iran. We have no ambitions on any inch of Iran. However, we cannot allow them to encroach on any of our rights. This is our right.

God willing, they will be reasonable. We hope that they have a mind left to act responsibly. We hope that they will move toward complete, comprehensive, and honorable peace for them as well as for us. It is obvious that their people want peace. Had it not been for their people who want peace, they would not have made the first step on the path of peace. God willing, you will achieve more dignity and stability. We are glad and appreciate your presence. Baghdad is yours. I convey to you my greetings as well as the greetings of my brothers and my wishes to my brothers the Arab kings and presidents. I wish you more pride. Thank you, my brothers.

Arab Information Ministers Issue Statement
JN0709102588 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 7 Sep (INA)—The Arab information ministers have hailed Iraq, people and leadership, on their victories—victories for the Arab nation and the will of goodness, peace, and life.

In a statement issued here today at the end of the 23d session of the Arab Information Ministers Council, they reiterated their solidarity with Iraq's legitimate defense of its territory, sovereignty, and independence, its heroic steadfastness for the sake of the noble Arab and Islamic principles and values, and its confrontation of the threats posed to the sovereignty and security of the Gulf and the Arab nation. [passage omitted] Following is the text of the statement:

Our Arab nation is passing through crucial circumstances while bravely confronting all attempts at containment, occupation, expansion, and attempts to instill despair in the Arab nation. Through these circumstances, our Arab nation is witnessing a new awakening represented by the brave will of the sons of occupied Palestine and their uprising against the Zionist occupation, and by the Iraqi victories on the battlefield. At this time, the Arab information ministers council held its 23d session in Baghdad from 25-26 Muharram 1409 Hegira, corresponding to 6-7 September 1988. The council greets the Iraqi people and leadership and blesses their victories—victories for the Arab nation and the will of goodness, peace, and life. It also reiterates what it announced during its previous sessions in terms of solidarity with fraternal Iraq, its legitimate defense of its territory, sovereignty, and independence, its heroic and brave steadfastness for the sake of the noble Arab and Islamic principles and values, and its confrontation of the threats posed to the sovereignty and security of the Gulf and the Arab nation.

The council has also called for ending the war between Iraq and Iran and for peace negotiations as an alternative to force in a way that would guarantee the two countries' independence, prevent interference in their domestic affairs, reinforce security and stability in the Arabian Gulf, and protect the rights of Iraq and the Arab nation. Having followed up developments in the course of the conflict following the great Iraqi victories with a spirit of optimism and hope to achieve a just and lasting peace by implementing UN Security Council Resolution 598 through direct negotiations between Iraq and Iran currently being held in Geneva, the council highly appreciates the sincere efforts exerted by Iraq in all political and media fields to achieve a just and honorable peace that guarantees Iraq's rights and sovereignty over its waters and territory, the noninterference in domestic affairs, and the security of the Gulf and the freedom of navigation in it.

Proceeding from the Arab League Charter, the media code of ethics, and the Arab nation's exalted principles and values, the Arab information ministers council believes that among the responsibilities of the pan-Arab action in the media field is to insure adherence to the following:

1. Continuation of solidarity with Iraq at the current peace negotiations with Iran, and of defending its legitimate rights and strong belief in achieving a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace between Iraq and Iran.

2. Confrontation of all attempts to obstruct the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 598 and to circumvent this resolution to give gains to the Iranian side at the expense of the national and pan-Arab rights of Iraq and the Arab nation, particularly regarding Iraq's historic rights of sovereignty over the Shatt al-'Arab, especially since it is Iraq's only waterway on the Arabian Gulf.

While reiterating its support for fraternal Iraq's sincere efforts to achieve a lasting and comprehensive peace, the Arab information ministers council calls on the Iranian regime to relinquish its trickery and obstructing methods based on its delusion to make gains at the beginning of the cease-fire at the expense of the rights of Iraq and the Arab nation, and to show good intentions to achieve lasting peace between it and Iraq.

The council also salutes the heroic and brave uprising of the sons of occupied Palestine against the Zionist occupation. The council calls for continuing support for the steadfast revolutionaries in the occupied territories in all political and media fields and on the Arab and international levels.

The council also calls for supporting fraternal Lebanon and for helping it to emerge from its current ordeal in a way that keeps Lebanon a free and independent Arab country that is affiliated to the Arab nation.

The Syrian delegation had reservations about the issuance of the statement.

HADASHOT Reports 'Secret' U.S.-Iranian Talks

TA0709093588 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 7 Sep 88 p 1

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] Secret talks between the United States and Iran in anticipation of a possible thaw in relations between the two countries have resumed recently in the wake of the end of the Gulf war. The secret team set up to conduct the contacts with Iran includes senior officials from various U.S. Government agencies and Secret Service agents.

The United States makes an improvement in relations with Iran conditional on the release of all American and Western hostages held by Hizballah in Lebanon. It was reported yesterday that Iranian Majlis speaker Hasemi-Rafsanjani has recently paid a secret visit to the hostages held in Al-Biqa'. Diplomatic sources argue that Hashemi-Rafsanjani even met British priest Terry Waite, who was kidnapped by an Islamic terrorist organization over a year ago immediately after he arrived in Beirut on a mediation mission to secure the release of other hostages.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani is known for his pro-Western positions. He supports a resumption of relations with the United States and advocates a political dialogue.

The United States has held secret contacts with Iran in the past through the Israeli, Ya'aqov Nimrodi, among others.

Shamir Promises To Appeal for Direct Peace Talks

TA0609200488 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Text] The Likud's main meeting opening its election campaign is taking place right now at Binyeney Ha'ooma in Jerusalem. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir opened his speech by saying that when he receives the people's vote, he will appeal in the name of the Government of Israel to the leaders of Egypt, Jordan, and the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el and the Gaza Strip, inviting them to direct peace negotiations in the spirit of the Camp David accords.

Shamir Comments on Husayn Moves, Ties With Iran

PM0209131688 Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA in Spanish 28 Aug 88 pp 10-11

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Tomas Alcoverro in Jerusalem; date not given]

[Excerpt] Jerusalem—[Passage omitted] [Alcoverro] Following King Husayn of Jordan's recent adoption of measures to dissociate himself from the occupied territories, which formed part of the Hashemite Kingdom until the Israeli victory of 1967, do you believe that the situation has changed on the West Bank? You said recently that the new measures will have no practical effect. Do you believe King Husayn took this decision as a result of the "intifada," the Palestinian population's uprising?

[Shamir] There could be certain connections between these displays of violence and the king's policy. However, I do not know the exact reasons why he acted in this way. If you want to find out you must ask him. What I can tell you is that things have not changed. Before making his statements King Husayn was no longer in control of the situation in the territories. He maintained contacts with its inhabitants but did not hold the decision-making power. The power both on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip is constituted by the Israeli Administration.

[Alcoverro] Do you believe, Prime Minister, that now, following this situation, it has become more difficult to find a way of resolving the problem of the intifada, which has been going on for 9 months?

[Shamir] It has nothing to do with our position. We are obliged to negotiate the future of these territories without preconditions, as stipulated by the Camp David accords, with Egypt, Jordan, the Palestinian people's legal representatives, and the United States, if they so desire. Israel wants to engage in these negotiations as soon as possible. We will not carry out any military action in the occupied territories.

[Alcoverro] Do you believe that King Husayn's decision has confused the PLO? Could it cause further splits among the Palestinians?

[Shamir] I am no journalist. My job is not to assess how the PLO feels or how King Husayn feels. I have already told you that in my opinion nothing has changed either on the West Bank or in the Gaza Strip.

[Alcoverro] Prime Minister, do you expect the next PNC meeting to produce any concrete results capable of constituting a step toward the recognition of the Israeli state.

[Shamir] I know nothing about the PLO's plans. It will not change its philosophy, its ideology, or its plan of action. If you like, it will alter its tactics, use another style of language. But it will not change its real aim, which remains the destruction of the Israeli state, whatever its leaders may say.

[Alcoverro] All these new elements in the situation in the occupied territories have emerged a few months after the general elections in your country. The Palestinian revolt has strengthened the Likud Party. Now it has been said that by dissociating himself from the West Bank's future, King Husayn was voting in favor of the Likud coalition of parties.... How do you believe these factors will influence the November general elections?

[Shamir] I do not believe the king's intention was to vote for the Likud Party. The point is that since King Husayn is not a potential participant in their policy, as the Laborites—with their "Jordanian option"—would like, the Israeli nation will have to express its own opinion.... If the Likud Party wins the elections, as I hope, if I continue my job as prime minister, I will approach the Arab states and the Palestinians, to engage in peace negotiations....

[Alcoverro] With which representatives of the Palestinian people do you hope to negotiate? With the PLO?...

[Shamir] We will never negotiate with the PLO. There are among the Palestinian population of the occupied territories moderate elements who could, with the Arab states' support, become our interlocutors.

[Alcoverro] Is there a current of opinion in Israel in favor of negotiating with the PLO?

[Shamir] Israel is a democratic country in which there are various political opinions. True, there is a group in favor of engaging in negotiations with Yasir 'Arafat. It is a small minority, however. The majority of the population oppose it because they realize that there is no point in negotiating with an organization that does not want to achieve peace.

[Alcoverro] So what will your policy be with a view to the next elections?

[Shamir] I will continue to proceed from the Camp David accords and will reject any attempt to hold an international peace conference on the Middle East.

[Alcoverro] All the political factors in this region are very closely interrelated. With the end of the Persian Gulf war between Iran and Iraq, which for 8 years helped Israel's position by splitting the Arab world, do you believe a military threat to the Israeli state could now emerge from those Arab countries?

[Shamir] Iraq's stance toward Israel has always been very hostile. Once the Iraqis are free of the war perhaps they will be tempted to form a "front" against us. This is not certain, however. It is possible that its leaders' political thinking has changed.

[Alcoverro] I have heard that in your country there are two schools of thought among politicians and intellectuals—the pro-Iranians and the pro-Iraqis—who argue that Israel must try to maintain contracts with either the Tehran or Baghdad governments to guarantee domestic benefits from the end of the Gulf war.

[Shamir] In Israel we do not have the "doctrinal" currents that you mention. Iran's importance to us is not such as to make us go that far.

[Alcoverro] The Arabs have always said over the years that they had two enemies—Israel and the Republic of Iran. Do you believe that there has been during this period an objective coincidence of interests between the two states? What can you tell me about Israeli-Iranian relations?

[Shamir] Yes, objectively there have been some points of common interest, but there are no relations between the two states. The Republic of Iran is governed by Muslim fanatics. This entirely alters the situation.

[Alcoverro] The Lebanese Parliament is trying to elect a new president. Everyone knows, however, that he will be chosen by Syria and the by United States, which also takes account of Israel's interests. How do you view these difficult elections? When will you withdraw your troops from the south of your neighboring country?

[Shamir] We would like an independent, free, and peaceful Lebanon. However, Lebanon is under Syrian pressure, as you know. The fact is that another pro-Syrian president would not serve Lebanese interests or stability and peace in the Middle East.

[Alcoverro] On the northern border Syria is committed to achieving a so-called "strategic military balance" with Israel. How do you assess this war effort?

[Shamir] This is what they say and what they want in Damascus. They are seeking this balance of forces to unleash a war against us and to destroy Israel. I hope they realize the risks and never embark on this military venture. Yes, I am sure there is a Syrian threat to our state.

[Alcoverro] One of the toughest criticisms made of Israel is that it is a confessional state and that it aspires to "Balkanize" its neighboring Middle Eastern Arab countries into small confessional states in order to guarantee its existence and impose its hegemony. Prime Minister, do you believe that Israel is a confessional state?

[Shamir] No, it is not. We want a state, a Jewish state, that will be like Spain, the Spanish people's state. We want to be masters of our nation, as you are of yours. However, this does not entail there being no other peoples or religions in Israel.

[Alcoverro] Last, I would not want to end our conversation without knowing your opinion of the Iran's Islamic revolution. I would like to know whether you really consider it an actual threat to Israel.

[Shamir] There is a tide of Islamic fanaticism in the region that threatens not only Israel but also Iraq, Egypt, Jordan, and even Syria. Its aspiration is to export its ideology to the Middle Eastern countries. Obviously after the Persian Gulf war its strength is declining and its threat is becoming much weaker.

[Alcoverro] It has been said, however, that this Islamic fanaticism was promoted by another extremist movement that also emerged in the Middle East—the Jewish movement.

[Shamir] Although there is a certain fanatical tendency among the Jewish people, it cannot be compared with Muslim radicalism. They lack real political ambitions and, above all, Jewish extremists are not interested in Israel's neighboring nations.

Moscow Delegation Head Returns for Consultations

TA0609174888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Text] Meron Gordon, the head of the Israeli delegation in Moscow, has returned to Israel to report to the foreign minister and the heads of the Foreign Ministry on the delegation's work.

Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that according to Gordon the delegation was received warmly by the Jewish community in Moscow. He said the delegation has so far not had any political contacts.

Leftists Meet Soviet Official in Geneva 4 Sep

TA0509065788 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 5 Sep 88

[Text] A delegation of the Progressive List for Peace headed by Knesset Member Muhammad Mi'ari yesterday conferred with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Vinogradov in Geneva. During the meeting, Vinogradov said that the Soviet Union is interested in maintaining ties with anyone who is ready to have relations with it. The Soviet representative also urged Israel to take the example of Angola to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

[Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew on 5 September carries a page 1 report on the meeting, adding that "The Soviet deputy foreign minister asked his Israeli interlocutors to pass a message to the Israeli public. The message is: The Israelis must understand that the West Bank has never been and will never be Israeli. The Soviet Union supports security and peace for both Israelis and Palestinians. The Israelis should take advantage of the great change in the PLO."]

Government Rejects Ceausescu's Peace Proposals

NC0309073788 Cairo MENA in English 0658 GMT 3 Sep 88

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Sept. 3 (MENA)—The Israeli Government has rejected peace proposals by Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu on settling the Arab-Israeli conflict, "AL ITTIHAD" newspaper reported today.

The proposals called for holding elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip under the supervision of the United Nations to determine their political future, the paper said.

The paper further quoted authoritative sources as saying that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) approved the proposals, while Israel informed the Romanian president that this was not, repeat not, a suitable time for accenting them due to the impending Israeli general elections.

UK's Lord McKay Visits Justice Minister Sharir

Holds Press Conference

TA0509113188 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 5 Sep 88 p 2

[Report from Jerusalem by Tova Tzimuqi]

[Text] British Lord Chancellor Lord McKay hinted yesterday that international law should be applied even under the difficult circumstances Israel has been experiencing in the territories.

Lord McKay, who is visiting Israel as the guest of Justice Minister Avraham Sharir, answered questions by the press on the use of mandatory emergency regulations in the territories. He said: "British law essentially stems from Jewish law. Beyond that I would not like to say anything specific about the application of this law in the occupied territories." Answering a question on the British Government's unbalanced attitude toward Israel, Lord McKay said that his government is doing its best to adopt a balanced view toward the uprising in the territories.

On another matter, Lord McKay admitted that there are certain similarities between the problems with which Britain is contending in Ireland and Israel's problems in the territories. "Beyond that, any situation is unique to that country. It has its own history and evolves in a specific chain of events."

Meets Shamir, Comments on Law

TA0609122088 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Text] Britain's Lord Chancellor Lord MacKay of Clashfern this morning called on Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres. Yesterday, he was invited by the president of the Supreme Court, Justice Me'ir Shamgar, to sit on the bench as cases were heard. Reporter Jack Katzenell asked the Lord Chancellor what impression he had gained.

[Begin recording] [MacKay] I esteemed it a great privilege to be, I think, the first British judge to be invited to sit on that particular bench since 1948, to be received with a great hospitality and warmth, and to feel that I was sitting under the same roof as my predecessors many years ago had sat under.

[Katzenell] In Israel, we always prided ourselves on the rule of law surviving 40 years of a continuous state of war, terrorism, and other pressures. Do you think it has survived the 10 months of the civil insurrection in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip?

[MacKay] Well, I believe that the rule of law is very precious in this country, and I believe that the people here are very anxious to see the rule of law preserved and enhanced in the areas for which they have responsibility.

[Katzenell] We heard this morning in a report from Gibraltar that the standing orders issued to the special air service about when they may and may not open fire would not be made public. Here in Israel, they are public knowledge. Every young Palestinian in the West Bank, for example, knows them by heart. Do you think in such matters that we are a little naive, too open?

[MacKay] Well, I think that precisely what one discusses publicly in that connection about rules of engagement and so on is a matter of discretion and a matter of circumstances, too. A lot depends on the particular circumstances in which one is placed. The mere fact it is not done in Gibraltar, say, does not necessarily mean that it would not be right to do it here, but these are, as I said, matters of particular circumstances and the particular situation, and I would not want to pass any judgment on the situation that pertains here. [end recording]

Jordan 'Gradually' Resuming West Bank Payments

TA0709062788 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 7 Sep 88 p 1

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] Jordan is gradually resuming the payment of salaries on a new basis to the workers it fired: It pays only those workers in sectors of interest to it. Our correspondent has learned that about 2 weeks ago payment was resumed to Jordanian workers dealing with agricultural matters. Several inspectors in charge of supervision of the sources of agricultural produce were once again given the powers that had been taken away from them immediately after King Husayn's speech.

Our correspondent has learned that Jordan initially sought to hand responsibility over agricultural matters to the Muslim Waqf but was later persuaded that this venture would fail.

Jordan Allows Unlimited Hajj Privilege in Dec

TA0309073488 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 3 Sep 88

[Text] The Jordanian authorities have agreed to permit an unlimited number of Israeli Muslims to carry out the minor pilgrimage this December as well, the Council of Muslim Holy Sites in East Jerusalem was informed.

'Amos Gilbo'a, the prime minister's Arab affairs adviser, told our correspondent Yo'el Dar that the Jordanian proposal was being discussed by the relevant ministries and that a positive response was almost certain.

In the past, the Jordanians permitted only 70 Muslims to make the pilgrimage, and only in March. This time, the Jordanian authorities announced that they are not limiting the number of pilgrims who are being allowed to make their way to Mecca not only in aircraft but also in buses.

Left-Wing Activists Meet PLO Official in Geneva

TA0309192688 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 3 Sep 88

[Text] Some 30 activists in Israeli leftwing movements recently conferred in Geneva with Khalid al-Hasan, one of the PLO's leaders. The meeting took place at the Palais des Nations where a UN convention was being held on the Palestinian question.

Our party affairs correspondent Hanan 'Azran reports that the Israelis included activists of Down With The Occupation, There Is A Limit, and Progressive Movement for Peace [PMP]. Adam Keller of PMP who took part in the meeting told our correspondent that according to Al-Hasan the PLO would be prepared to start direct negotiations with Israel if the latter accepted the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Our correspondent points out that according to Israeli law it is prohibited to hold meetings with PLO officials. Keller noted that among those taking part in the meeting were Knesset Member Muhammad Mi'ari of the Progressive List for Peace and Tzvi Razi of Down With The Occupation.

Amal Held Responsible for Captive Navigator

TA0209165588 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 2 Sep 88

[Text] Israel has reiterated that it holds the Shi'ite organization Amal and its leader Nabih Birri responsible for the well-being and health of the captive Israeli Air Force navigator.

Reacting to various reports about the health of the navigator held captive in Lebanon, the IDF spokesman has made it clear that Israel expects Amal members to take all the measures that derive from their responsibility.

Our army affairs correspondent notes that Israel will continue to do everything possible to bring the navigator home safe and sound as soon as possible.

Katyusha Rockets Fired at SLA Positions

TA0709091688 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Text] Several Katyusha rockets were fired this morning at positions of the South Lebanese Army [SLA] in the eastern sector of the security zone, but nobody was hurt. The rockets were fired from the vicinity of the villages of Maydun and Kawkaba north of the security zone. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that SLA artillery and tanks returned fire.

More on Unrest, Related Incidents in Territories

2 Journalists, Others Arrested

TA0609095688 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 6 Sep 88 pp A1, 2

[Report by Yosi Levi and Rahamim Ya'aqov]

[Excerpt] Four men, including two journalists from East Jerusalem, were arrested last night during a meeting in the village of Hizma, east of Jerusalem. Arab sources said the four had called on AL-FAJR journalist Hasan al-Khatib (one of those arrested) on the occasion of the birth of his son. The second journalist is Salah al-Zuhayka of AL-SHA'B, who has been placed in administrative detention in the past and who is one of the most prominent journalists in the territories. The other two are residents of Mazra'ah al-Qibliyah and Dayr Jarir in the Ramallah District. [Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 0600 GMT on 6 September reports that "overnight the Jerusalem Police arrested 13 Arabs from Shu'fat and Silwan on suspicion of having been involved in recent riots in those areas. Their interrogation continues."]

There were few incidents in the West Bank yesterday, mostly in the Janin District. The incidents occurred in Tubas, the refugee camp in the town of Janin, and in the villages of Jalamah and 'Arranah. Two youngsters were reportedly wounded by gunfire. [passage omitted] [Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English on 6 September in a report on pages one and twelve reports that "in clashes between Palestinian protesters and troops, three persons were reported wounded Sunday night at Silat al-Harithiyah and another yesterday at Jalbun. Both villages are in the Janin area."]

150 Arrested in Qalqilyah

TA0609213088 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Text] During searches in Qalqilyah, the IDF uncovered a workshop producing spikes and nails of the type recently spread on roads in the town and its surroundings. These spikes and nails caused punctures in the tires of civilian and military vehicles. Our correspondent Moti Amir adds that most of the 150 arrested in Qalqilyah belong to the Al-Shabibah, the Fatah youth movement.

The Civil Administration in Judaea and Samaria distributed pamphlets in Qalqilyah calling on the inhabitants to not resist the search operation. The pamphlets explained that the IDF was acting against those who cause disturbances because the township has become a focus of violence against both local and Israeli civilians.

This evening, a firebomb was hurled at a bus belonging to the Samaria Development Company traveling near Ari'el. A fire broke out but the driver managed to extinguish it.

Another pamphlet by the unified command of the uprising was distributed today in limited numbers. It is pamphlet No 25.

3 Injured in Gaza Riot

TA0709053288 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Except for the operation in Qalqilyah, relative quiet was observed in Judaea and Samaria yesterday.

Life proceeded normally in the Gaza Strip during the day, but in the evening a riot was dispersed in the Al-Nusayrat refugee camp. Three rioters were wounded by IDF gunfire. A resident of Rafah who was seriously wounded during the dispersal of a riot a few days ago died of his wounds last night at Tel Hashomer Hospital.

Meanwhile, leaflet No 25 of the unified national command of the uprising was distributed in the territories yesterday after a slight delay due to the differences among the various factions. The leaflet calls on the Islamic Resistance Movement to join the unified national command and to stop jeopardizing Palestinian unity.

Bogus Army Exemption Ring Exposed by IDF

TA0609092788 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Sep 88 pp 1, 12

[Report by the military staff]

[Text] Shock waves swept through the IDF yesterday following the disclosure that a network of army personnel and civilians had been arranging exemptions from military service in return for bribes and other favours. Some 60 people are believed to have gained such illegal exemption from service, IDF Manpower Division head Aluf, [Major General] Matan Vilna'i said last night.

Sixteen people have already been detained and further arrests are expected, particularly among those who received exemptions.

Among those arrested are two senior officers with the rank of sgan-aluf [major general], other officers serving in the Manpower Devision and the Medical Corps, and civilians, including a doctor.

The disclosure of the network followed intensive investigation over the past six months by the Military Police's special investigations branch and the Israel Police's national unit for criminal investigations.

Vilna'i, who revealed that the tipoff came from within the army's Manpower Division, said that he had ordered a reassessment of the conscription and exemption processes in the wake of the revelations.

Both Vilna'i and Military Police head Tat-Aluf [Brigadier General] Ami'el Elimelekh stressed that the IDF viewed the matter with the utmost gravity and that the guilty would be brought to trial. Elimelekh noted that this was not the first time that such a phenomenon had been uncovered in the army, but conceded that previous cases had been isolated and limited in scope.

"The IDF, with the consent of the Chief of General Staff, took the initiative to investigate the matter and decided on a full-scale inquiry," he said.

The original information about a ring which was operating to obtain false medical exemptions and to falsify army documents, with the use of the IDF computer, came to the attention of the military police last November: For four months, the police investigated the suspicions and substantiated the accusations before beginning their surveillance of the suspects.

The suspects have all been under surveillance for about six months. It was decided to make the arrests after sufficient evidence for lodging criminal charges against them had been collected.

Asked by an Israel Television interviewer whether there was any connection between the network and the intifada [uprising], Elimelekh said "no."

The suspects are currently under intensive interrogation and their modes of operation are being studied, Elimelekh said. In detention at present are two officers of the rank of sgan-aluf, five other officers including a woman, and a private, as well as eight civilians, including the doctor. Some of them had acted as middlemen between the persons seeking exemptions from regular service or reserve duty, while the remainder arranged the "services" within the army.

Military police knocked on the doors of the 16 suspects in the early hours of yesterday morning. After the arrests, the suspects' homes and offices were searched.

While there have been cases in the past of psychiatrists being charged with falsifying medical documents to obtain military exemptions, in return for bribes, the IDF has never been exposed to a conspiracy of this magnitude, observers said yesterday.

Labor Party Formally Launches Election Campaign

TA0609090588 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Sep 88 p 1

[Report by Mikhal Yudelman]

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv—The Labour Party election campaign was formally launched yesterday on an upbeat note in a packed Mann Auditorium, to the enthusiastic applause of thousands of activists from all over the country.

Labour leaders set the tone for an aggressive, intense campaign, and the audience was shown snippets of action-packed campaign films. Above the festively decked stage was a huge banner with the Labour slogan: "Alignment—the Way to Breakthrough."

The main speeches were given by party leader Shim'on Peres and Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, who scathingly attacked the Likud an other right-wing parties.

Campaign chairman 'Ezer Weizman whipped up the audience into a victorious, vibrant mood, and Histadrut Secretary-General Yisra'el Qeysar blamed the Likud for the economic crisis and increasing unemployment.

The gathering was also addressed by party secretary-general Bar'a campaign information head Nisim Zvili; Na'amat [Histadrut-affiliated women's organization] secretary-general Masha Lubelsky; Young Guard campaign head Ori Or; campaign organization chairman Beiga Shohat; and Nowwaf Massalha, head of the Arab and minorities campaign.

Peres, who gave the final speech presented the political right as a coalition based on fear and spreading fear of peace. He accused the right of objecting to Camp David and ruining its achievements. He casigated it for the four-year war in Lebanon; for inflation, which undermined the economy; and for the vision of nine years of intifada [uprising].

"It's Yitzhaq Shamir who did not support Camp David, who did not want the London Document, and who wants to turn Gaza and Jabalyah and Al-Nusayrat into part of Israel.

"It's Moshe Arens who objected to Camp David and to leaving Lebanon. What didn't he object to? And he now preaches annexation of territories with 1.5 million residents.

"It's Ari'el Sharon who plays around with the map of the region. He wrecked Yamit, got entangled in Lebanon, and now calls for immediate annexation.

"And in the camp of national despair there's Tehiya, aspiring to eternalize every dispute and create more

areas of dispute. Alongside them there's Moledet, which calls its urge to deport and exile 'voluntary transfer.' These are the Likud's partners, and finally, Kahane too.

"They are a group characterized by political blindness, a group which endangers the existence of the Jewish majority in Israel, a group whose only political line is settlements," Peres said.

Rabin blasted the right wing's threats and the left wing's defeatism. Outlining Labour's achievements in getting out of Lebanon and saving the economy from collapse, he noted that the Likud had blocked Labour's attempts to advance the peace process. He stressed that Israel would not return to the 1967 borders, and described Labour's security principles and "red lines." [passage omitted]

Army, Gunmen Clash Along Beirut Green Line

NC0209193588 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 2 Sep 88

[Text] Clashes between the Army and gunmen have been taking place in the College of Science area [on the demarcation line between East and West Beirut] since 2045 today. Rockets, artillery, and machineguns are being used in the clashes. Flares are also being fired over the area.

Palestinians Clash at Burj al-Barajinah 2 Sep

NC0209210988 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1845 GMT 2 Sep 88

[Text] A clash took place this evening in Burj al-Barajinah between elements of the Palestinian Struggle Front and others from the pro-Syrian Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] group. The clash left an unspecified number of casualties on both sides.

'Violent' Fighting Resumes

NC0309052188 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 3 Sep 88

[Excerpt) Violent clashes have been going on for approximately 30 minutes between gunmen belonging to Fatah-The Uprising of Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] and the Popular Front members in Burj al-Barajinah camp. Machineguns, rockets, and artillery fire are being used in the fighting. Today's clashes follow yesterday's fighting that broke out at approximately 2115 and lasted until midnight. [passage omitted]

Calm Prevails 3 Sep

NC0309083888 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 3 Sep 88

[Text] Calm is prevailing in the Burj al-Barajinah camp following the violent clashes that took place between Palestinian gunmen in the camp last night and this morning.

PFLP sources have reported that a meeting was held at the PFLP office at 0830 today. As a result of the meeting, it was decided to form a committee whose task will be to hand over those who perpetrated the incident.

The sources said that efforts had succeeded in reaching an agreement on a cease-fire at 0845.

Fighting Flares, Subsides

NC0309164388 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Sep 88

[Excerpt] Fighting resumed among Palestinians in Burj al-Barajinah at 1800 today. The clashes, in which rockets and machineguns were used, subsided at approximately 1830. [passage omitted]

Israeli Force Penetrates South, Fires at Shepherds

NC0409163288 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 4 Sep 88

[Text] This morning an Israeli force consisting of five armored vehicles penetrated into the liberated area in the direction of the Jan'am plain from positions in the hills east of Shab'a 5 km The force carried out a 2-hour combing operation, opening machinegun fire at flocks of sheep and goats and shepherds, who were forced to flee north toward the Rashayya al-Wadi area.

Israeli Planes Break Sound Barrier 6 Sep

NC0609135988 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Text] Israeli warplanes broke the sound barrier while flying in Lebanese skies shortly after 1500 today.

Fly Over Beirut 7 Sep

NC0709072588 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Text] Israeli aircraft broke the sound barrier over Beirut at 1007 today during reconnaisance flights.

'9 February' Claims 1 Sep Killing of Syrian

NC0209112588 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 2 Sep 88

[Text] As part of the operations aimed at the Syrian occupation, the Khalil 'Akkawi forces of the 9 February organization have claimed responsibility for killing a Syrian soldier in Zarub al-Jazzar behind the Al-Da'uq camp in Sabra in West Beirut last night. The organization announced that this operation came after a statement by George Hawi [secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party], the so-called nationalist parties, and the Amal Movement that they will defend the Beirut area against blows targeted at the positions of the Syrian occupation forces.

The 9 February organization responded to this statement by declaring that it will continue its struggle against the Syrian regime and all those who defend it until the last Syrian soldier leaves Lebanon.

In another development, a 107-mm rocket was fired at a Syrian checkpoint in Corniche al-Mazra'ah this morning, causing damage to two cars which were parked near the checkpoint.

Blows Up Syrian Post 4 Sep

NC0509052888 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 5 Sep 88

[Text] The Khalil 'Akkawi unit of the 9 February Organization has claimed responsibility for blowing up a center for the Syrian occupation troops in the Fransiscan

area [in West Beirut] at 2100 last night. The operation left a number of casualties and the Syrian troops cordoned off the area, according to a statement by the organization.

RFL on 3 Operations

NC0609111688 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Text] The 9 February Organization today claimed responsibility for detonating three explosive devices against Syrian occupation positions in West Beirut last night. The first device was targeted against a Syrian position in the Al-Barbir area. In the second operation, a Syrian soldier was killed and three others wounded when a device went off near a Syrian position in Qasqas. The third operation was carried out against a position in the Al-Bashurah area. Two Syrian soldiers were wounded.

Al-Faruq Battalion Claims 6 Sep 'Assassination'

NC0609140188 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Text] The Al-Faruq Battalion [Katibat al-Faruq] has claimed responsibility for assassination of two Syrian occupation Army soldiers by using pistols equipped with silencers in Al-Awza'i at 1400 today.

Tripoli Operation Claimed

NC0709141588 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Text] An organization calling itself the Al-Faruq Battalion has claimed responsibility for detonating an explosive device at a Syrian military post in the Al-'Ayruniyah area of Tripoli shortly before 1300 today. The operation left a number of persons manning the post injured, according to a spokesman for the organization.

Resistance Attacks Lahd Position in Zummarayya

NC0209123188 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 2 Sep 88

[Text] National resistance fighters fired 10 Katyushas at a Lahd militia position at the Zummarayya crossing inside the so-called security zone at dawn today. The Lahd militia's radio confirmed the report but failed to say whether there were any casualties. The radio reported, however, that the Lahd elements responded by shelling Mimis village and the surrounding areas in Hasbayya.

The national resistance issued a statement saying: On the occasion of 1 September, the fifth anniversary of the victorious war of the mountain, the group of the two martyred heroes Jamal Sa'b and Nabil Khayr carried out a rocket attack on the agents' position on Zummarayya hill. The position sustained direct hits and a number of agents were either killed or wounded. All members of the group returned safely to base. Helicopters were seen flying over the scene of the operation to evacuate the wounded.

Islamic Movement Member Killed in Tripoli

NC0409161588 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 4 Sep 88

[Text] 'Abdallah Yunis, a member of the Islamic Unification Movement, was killed and another movement member wounded during a shooting incident at the movement's office in the Al-Khannaq area in Tripoli this morning.

Interfamily Clash Kills 2; Explosion in Beirut

NC0309062588 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 3 Sep 88

[Text] The situation is very tense in the Al-Hirmil area in the wake of a clash that took place between two families and resulted in the death of six people, including Master Sergeant 'Abbas Murshid al-Faqih of the 12th Brigade and Corporal Mustafa Hasan al-Faqih of the 6th Brigade.

In another development, a bundle of dynamite exploded outside the British Bank for the Middle East on 'Abd al-'Aziz Street in West Beirut last night, causing only property damage.

USSR Said To Exert Pressure Over Elections

JN0309185888 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 2 Sep 88 p 15

[Excerpt] Beirut—Ranking political sources in Beirut have revealed to AL-QABAS that the USSR has begun to exert pressures in order to hold presidential elections in Lebanon before the constitutional deadline expires approximately 3 weeks later, that is, on 23 September. [passage omitted]

Finance Minister Makes Statement on Elections

NC0209201188 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 2 Sep 88

[Text] Minister Joseph al-Hashim has warned that if presidential elections are not held, several possibilities will arise, including the loss of authority, state, and legality and perhaps other, more complicated matters.

In a statement to the doyen of journalists Milhim Karam, Minister al-Hashim denied that President al-Jumayyil is considering extending his term in office. He said this subject has been closed for good. Those who are saying such a thing are the ones trying to puncture the wheels of constitutional deadlines, he declared.

Shams al-Din Backs Al-Huss' Stand on Government
NC0309124788 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Sep 88

[Text] Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council, has described the attitude of acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss as a patriotic, balanced, and decisive stand, and he emphasized that he supports this stand.

During a news conference which he held at his home at noon today, Shaykh Shams al-Din said: The regime's actions, the latest being its answer to Al-Huss' letter, are fresh proof that our perception of this regime is correct. It is a hegemonic regime which must be changed on the basis of numerical democracy. The answer to this regime is the government of Prime Minister al-Huss.

Shams al-Din warned the regime against forming a new government, saying it will be an illegal one which will further worsen and complicate matters.

Shaykh Shams al-Din described the Bkirki statement as reasonable and wise, indicating a spirit of reconciliation. He said: We want Bkirki to understand the situation and consider matters in a positive way.

He said that what happened on 18 August was the result of an Israeli-U.S. plot, adding: We are determined not to submit to the U.S. stand. We will not permit the United States and Israel to get revenge for the defeat they suffered when the 17 May agreement was abrogated. He stated: Syria's presence in Lebanon is a necessity. The intention is to undermine this presence in order for Israel to be able to deal separately with the Lebanese people and implement its plans, benefiting from what it believes to be regional confusion. He pointed out that there is a serious U.S. plan designed for implementation in the south. He said: I do not at this time want to reveal the contents of this plan, which might already be known. We warn against this inclination.

Velayati Message Delivered to Al-Huss
LD0509152188 Tehran IRNA in English 1440 GMT 5 Sep 88

[Text] Beirut, Sept. 5, IRNA—Iran's ambassador to Beirut Ahmad Dastmalchian conveyed a verbal message from Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati to Lebanese acting premier and minister of foreign affairs Salim al-Huss here Sunday.

The message dealt with the latest developments in the Persian Gulf, and the Islamic Republic's efforts for maintaining regional peace and security. It also explained Iraq's procrastination of the Geneva peace talks as well as Baghdad's one-sided abrogation of the 1975 accord.

Al-Huss in the meeting termed Iran's acceptance of U.N. Resolution 598 as Tehran's keenness for maintaining regional peace.

Speaking to reproters after the meeting Dastmalchian said he had praised Al-Huss' stances which back Lebanon's unity and support resistance against the Zionist occupiers and their local mercenaries.

Meanwhile, Dastmalchian discussed regional and international issues particularly a compromise between amal movement and Hizballah, with the vice-speaker of the Supreme Shi'ite Assembly Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din here on the same day.

Afghanistan

Protest Given to Pakistan on Air Attack Report

LD0609171688 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Text] The second secretary of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan was summoned at 1700 today to the Foreign Ministry, and the following points were conveyed to him by the first deputy political assistant:

Radio Pakistan in its Dari service news bulletin at 2100 on 5 September said that aircraft of the Republic of Afghanistan had intruded into Pakistani air space and had attacked (Duba) village, located in Dir, killing one person and injuring eight others. On hearing the news the Foreign Ministry asked the appropriate Afghan security authorities to supply information in this regard. Comprehensive investigations have proved that the Pakistani authorities' claim is groundless and there is no real basis for it.

Therefore, the Republic of Afghanistan rejects these untrue claims by the Pakistani authorities and lodges a very strong protest against such baseless allegations by the Pakistani Government.

By resorting to such groundless allegations Pakistan is trying to conceal its deliberate violations of the Geneva accords and the continuation of the daily interference against Afghanistan. If Pakistan persists with such fabrications which contravene Document No 1 of the Geneva accords concerning the principles of mutual relations, in particular on noninterference, and which are contrary to international accepted norms, responsibility for their grave consequences will rest with the Pakistani authorities.

Foreign Ministry Comments

LD0609183588 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Text] The Afghan Foreign Ministry spokesman told BAKHTAR concerning the Pakistani allegations that Afghan planes have twice violated Pakisani airspace over the past week, that this is not the first time that the Republic of Pakistan has resorted to such propaganda maneuvers. The recent statement by [Pakistani Foreign Minister] Sahabzada Yaqub Khan upon his departure for Nicosia indicates that whenever there are international gatherings, Pakistan resorts to making scenes and unfounded affairs and to sabotaging world public opinion. There are many examples of such allegations. During the Geneva talks, Pakistan resorted to such baseless allegations many times in order to bring about a deadlock in the negotiations.

The recent allegations, which coincide with the conference of the Nonaligned Movement foreign ministers, are a despicable endeavor to conceal Pakistan's repeated violations of the Geneva agreement. So far 75 notes reporting Pakistan's 432 violations have been submitted to the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan's office in Kabul. The entire world is convinced of Pakistan's violations of the Geneva agreement. Attention should also be paid to the fact that for a long time Pakistan has been trying to intensify its interference in the Afghanistan and Pakistan office in Kabul. The entire world is convinced of Pakistan's violations of the Geneva agreement. Attention should also be paid to the fact that for a long time Pakistan has been trying to intensify its interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs by expediting paramilitary forces and advisors and dispatching light and heavy modern weapons into Afghanistan. The present accusations are self-evident. Pakistan seeks to further intensify its interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs.

Afghanistan has made every effort to implement totally the Geneva agreements and to normalize the situation around Afghanistan. The return of 50 percent of the limited Soviet contingents to their homeland within the set timetable is irrefutable evidence of Afghanistan's honesty about implementing the Geneva accords. Afghanistan wants to normalize the situation around the country and does not have the slightest interest in the continuation of tension. However, Pakistan, on the one hand, continues to intensify tension and to interfere in Afghanistan's internal affairs, and on the other hand is diverting the Pakistani people's attention, who are impatiently waiting for their government to fulfill its promises to hold a democratic election. Pakistan's irresponsible actions lead to the concern that the country's government has forgotten its promises and is continuing to intensify tension in the region.

Wakil Meets With Indian Leaders Gandhi, Rao

LD0309194788 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 3 Sep 88

[Text] Esteemed Foreign Minister 'Abdul Wakil, who is on a friendly working visit to Delhi as head of a delegation from our country, this morning met with His Excellency Rajiv Ghandi, prime minister of the Republic of India. During this meeting Esteemed 'Abdul Wakil handed over a message from Esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, to His Excellency Rajiv Ghandi, which was received with thanks.

The foreign minister also gave detailed information about recent developments in the country and the measures by the Republic of Afghanistan to fullly implement the Geneva accords to ensure peace and resolve the situation in Afghanistan. The two sides exchanged views on a series of regional and international issues and stressed the expansion and consolidation of existing traditional and friendly ties between both countries.

According to another report, talks between Esteemed 'Abdul Wakil and Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao began today. The two sides talked about the forthcoming meeting of nonaligned foreign ministers in Nicosia and about further development of the friendly relations between Afghanistan and India.

Najibullah, Sharq, Congratulate SRV Leaders

LD0309063788 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 3 Sep 88

[Text] Kabul, September 2, BAKHTAR—Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan and general secretary of the PDPA CC and Dr. Muhammad Hasan Sharq, prime minister of Afghanistan sent congratulatory messages to the leaders of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on the occasion of 43rd anniversary of the foundation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The messages expressed confidence that recent official and friendly visit of the Afghan president to Vietnam will have its impacts on further expansion and strengthening of friendly and fraternal relations between the peoples of the two countries, peace and security in the region and world at large.

Najibullah Closing Speech to Political Parties

LD0509220488 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 Sep 88

[Concluding speech by President Najibullah at meeting of Political Parties and Organizations in Kabul; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] Esteemed friends and comrades:

Our meeting which undoubtedly was very important is ending. First of all we have come to understand each other better. Secondly we exchanged views on the most important issues. Thirdly we have harmonized our activity. Naturally in each of our speeches, we did not say the same things, and not everything conformed with the experience and knowledge of society. There were some superficial issues.

Despite that, the main issue—that is our joint efforts to urgently establish peace in our war-torn country—has become obvious. We once again reached the conclusion that we should use all the power, energy, and potential of our parties to implement a national reconciliation policy and national unity to ensure peace and tranquillity. In this respect there is a very logical point. The national reconciliation policy is called a policy. And this policy should be implemented by the political parties with political methods. Therefore, we come to a logical conclusion that the policy of peace, tranquility, and national reconciliation and the policy of national unity are the main weapons, or in another word the only political weapons of each party. Let us come to think together and express our views on how we can fulfill this policy more effectively and fruitfully. This matter should be transformed into the cause of all the people, into political creativeness of all the nationalities, tribes, and clans and of all the democratic, national, and progressive parties.

The popularity of national reconciliation is contained in the fact that everyone can take part in its implementation. The availability of this policy is contained in the fact that it can be implemented everywhere, in each village. The logic of the reconciliation policy is contained in the fact that it invites all the people to peace. Therefore, the people received national reconciliation with understanding. However, we know that this policy needs a powerful, new impetus. We will work on this issue in the next few days, and then we will issue a special statement on the new stage of the national reconciliation policy. We hope to benefit from your views and ideas.

It would be good if after this meeting the leaders of the parties hold special sessions for their party activists to inform them in detail about our conversation and to approve work plans for implementing the pressing tasks. I think that would be a correct decision. It would be even better if each central committee sends a special letter to its party members and organizes work to mobilize its forces to defend the Republic of Afghanistan and the progressive revolutionary gains.

Our esteemed friends made remarks here that the doors to the media are closed to the political parties. It must be said in this connection that pluralism in the mass media has been observed for a long time. There is an authority in the presidency which regulates these issues. As far as I know, the party leadership and officials have been repeatedly asked to talk to the press, radio, and television an put into practice information pluralism. But they have not had time to do that yet. Political parties have the right to benefit from information pluralism in the state mass media. They can and must do so.

During our meeting some other issues were raised. Let us act this way. [sentence as heard] The Coordinating Council of the Democratic Left Parties will consider the issues related to the PDPA, the Organizating of Revolutionary Toilers of Afghanistan, and the Toilers Organization of Afghanistan. A special, presidential commission will consider issues that relate to other parties. There are some proposals with overall national characteristics. We will consider such proposals at the appropriate level of importance.

While we were working with you here, the first Afghan cosmonaut was continuing his flight. Good information is coming from space. It would have been good for you to have sent your messages of congratulations and extended your support for this historic event, which entails enormous advantages. It should be recalled that the USSR has undertaken all of the expenses for the flight arrangements. This is another example of the Soviet Union's selfless assistance to the Afghan people, both on Earth and in space.

From the bottom of my heart, I wish you success in your difficult party activities in these sensitive, difficult, but honorable historic times. Thank you for your attention.

Parties' Resolution Issued

LD0509231788 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 Sep 88

[Text] The first broad session of the country's political party and organization leaders has ended with the issuance of a resolution, which was read by Dr Haydar Mas'ud, Politburo member and PDPA Central Committee secretary. We hereby draw your attention to it:

[Begin Haydar Mas'ud recording] Draft of the resolution issued by the leaders of Afghan political parties:

On 1 September a meeting of leaders of the PDPA, the Revolutionary Organization of Toilers of Afghanistan, the Toilers Organization of Afghanistan, the Islamic Party of the People of Afghanistan, the Peasants Justice Party of Afghanistan, the Solidarity Movement of the People of Afghanistan, Fedayeen, and the Ansarullah Union was held in Kabul. Questions about the future expansion of the national reconciliation policy were discussed.

Esteemed Afghan President Najibullah delivered a speech to the session. The session of party leaders was held in an atmosphere of complete unity of rights, mutual understanding, and free exchange of views on the country's major internal and international problems. The session showed that the parties, having a diversity of ideological views, are united in efforts to bring about a halt to the futile bloodshed and a revival of peace in the country. Afghan political parties and organizations believe that the current policy of national reconciliation is responsive to the interests of various social classes and strata. The complete realization of this program opens the path of progress and prosperity in the country.

The party leaders expressed the opinion that there is no alternative to the policy of national reconciliation. They expressed their concern about the unwise and irresponsible actions of the extremist opposition, which is dragging the people of Afghanistan to suicide, hostility, and hatred between Muslims, and which has been condemned by Almighty God. The party leaders condemned the futile savagery of the extremists against civilians, the savage bombardment of cities and villages.

The parties' leadership representatives, expressing the views of their members, expressed support for the practical activity and policy of Esteemed Afghan President Najibullah and emphasized that this activity and policy is in the interests of all Afghans. The party leaders believe that the current policy of national reconciliation and compromises in the country are creating the necessary conditions for advancing negotiations between opposition groups. They address the leaders of the armed units to temporarily stop military operations for just a month in order to discuss the condition for talks. The political parties who support the policy of national reconciliation ask all national and patriotic forces in the country to expand their contacts with the armed opposition to convince them to agree to a cease-fire and to start negotiations with the state authority. Political parties and organizations, despite the fact that they follow adverse beliefs and opinions, for the sake of high interests of the people and the homeland, will consolidate the foundation of a power coalition within the framework of the constitution.

The session participants believe that all political forces in the country should take an active part in the revival and growth of the national economy, assist in mobilizing national investors, enhance production forces in cities and villages, and encourage cooperative movement.

Afghanistan's political parties and organizations highly praise the signing of the Geneva accords. Expressing complete support for Afghanistan's and the Soviet Union's steps to implement these agreements, these parties and organizations resolutely demand the same approach regarding the implementation of these accords by the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and by the United States.

The party leaders pointed out that foreign policy, like domestic policy, must advance in the interests of all forces inside Afghanistan in accordance with the principles of political pluralism and coalition. They will pursue a policy supporting joint measures toward implementing the Geneva accords and joint efforts in other important areas of foreign policy that relate to the interests of Afghanistan as a state with national sovereignty, nonaligned, and independent.

The party leaders consider the growth of friendly relations with all neighboring countries and the establishment of an atmosphere of peace and mutual beneficial cooperation in the region as the number one task of foreign policy. They view the consolidation of Afghan-Soviet friendship as an important factor in maintaining the international standing of the Republic of Afghanistan and solving socioeconomic development problems. They believe Afghanistan's stand as a sovereign, nonaligned, and neutral state should be guaranteed by an international agreement.

Afghanistan's political parties and organizations express concern that after the withdrawal of the remaining Soviet units to their homeland, the extremist forces will expand their fratricidal war, strengthen the policy of weakening and dividing the people, and intensify their destructive actions. Therefore, the political parties and social organizations, within the framework of coalition and defending the constitution and peace, are ready—relying on the assistance of almighty God and the support of all the people—to defend with arms the nation's honor and eliminate the threat to the independence and territorial integrity of our beloved country, Afghanistan.

The political parties as a whole and every party individually invite their members and symphatizers to actively participate in the armed defense of the Republic of Afghanistan in self-defense units, in maintaining public

order, explaining the policy of national reconciliation to the people, and maintaining all-round support for the state's measures to consolidate the country's defense capability.

The leaders of the parties express satisfaction at the results of the first working meeting and believe that such meetings should be made regularly and they should be part of the country's political life.

General Interviewed on Situation in Nangarhar

LD0509235388 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 Sep 88

[Text] The security situation in Nangarhar Province is good and people in that province live in an atmosphere of peace and security. A Radio Afghanistan reporter spoke by telephone with Brigadier General Ghulam Hazrat, deputy commander of Army I Corps, about this:

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Esteemed Brig Gen Ghulam Hazrat, could you please tell us something about the security situation in Jalalabad and tell our Afghan listeners about the independent defense by the Afghan Armed Forces in maintaining security in that province:

[Hazrat] You know, dear friend, that after the Geneva accords the Soviet military units for the first time left the eastern zone—Jalalabad—for their peace-loving country. All the positions and posts previously protected by the friendly Soviet soldiers were filled by our armed forces, who even now are protecting and defending them courageously. Our armed forces are defending the revolution and the people in all localities in Jalalabad city. At the beginning the enemies of the revolution thought they would capture Jalalabad in a short time. They spread propaganda in the region. In order to implement their sinister plan, they visited the people in the Khugianay, Agam, and (Sherzad) regions and invited them to take part in attacking the security posts and subsequently Jalalabad city. The noble people of the region, however, when they correctly understood the facts, rejected them. A number of their personnel began attacking the posts and the city. They were not aware of the fact that entrenched in our posts were brave men, through whose bodies coursed the blood of those courageous fathers who had dealt shattering blows to the greatest imperialism of the time—Great Britain. The sons of those people are in these posts. The extremists' sporadic forces were dealt such tooth-shattering blows that they were not able to even collect the corpses of their killed.

Concerning the situation in Jalalabad city and the surrounding areas, I could say that the situation in the city is normal—the people continue their normal lives, they are engaged in their daily work, and the people in the surrounding areas are also living in peace and tranquility. Our armed forces are gaining strength from day-to-day. If the enemy embarks on some measures, our armed forces will give them shattering blows at that very moment.

That situation on the highway between Towr Kham and Jalalabad and Jalalabad and Kabul is normal. The traffic is normal. In Jalalabad itself, in the Sorkh Rud, (Cahprahar), (Rodat), Achin, (Shinwar), Batsawul, Gowshtah, (Gama), and Shiveh districts and in Dowr Baba subdistrict, the situation is completely peaceful. Anyone coming here will confirm what I have said.

[Reporter] Could you tell us about the people's support for the armed forces in maintaining peace and security in the region?

[Hazrat] I would like to say that the people of the region are all on the side of defending the revolution and the people. Going anywhere, one sees the peasants and the workers carrying weapons and, side by side with their armed forces, defending the revolution. Our great success lies in this.

[Reporter] Thank you Gen Ghulam Hazrat. [end recording]

Rebels Request 'Direct' Weapons Deliveries

BK0209140988 Hong Kong AFP in English 1357 GMT 2 Sep 88

[By Alain Boebion]

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 2 (AFP)—Afghan resistance leaders said here Friday that they would like to have weapons delivered directly to Afghanistan instead of via Pakistan.

The resistance has adopted a wait-and-see attitude since the death of Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in an airplane crash August 17. General Ziaul Haq was a staunch supporter of the resistance, but there may be a change in Pakistani policy after elections due here on November 16.

"The Americans supply (weapons) to us. That is one thing. But why should they continue to do it through Pakistan?" A spokesman for Jamiyat-e Eslami, a moderate fundamentalist rebel faction, said here.

"The deliveries could very well be made through another country or directly," said the spokesman without elaborating on the third country.

The Pakistani daily NAWA-E WAQT said August 28 that Turkey had proposed to forward "all necessary aid" to the rebels, but did not say if the help would be direct or indirect.

Afghanistan borders the Soviet Union in the north, Pakistan in east and south and Iran in the west. It has a tiny border with China in a region that has been annexed by the Soviet Union despite U.S. and Pakistani protests.

Pir Sayyed Gaylani, of the traditionalist Afghan Islamic National Front and the current head of the seven-party resistance alliance, said "We are looking for a way to have the weapons delivered directly."

The front claimed responsibility for an attack on Kabul Airport on August 27, which killed 25 Afghan soldiers and destroyed five airplanes according to Western sources. Mr. Gaylani said that most of the rebels around the southern city of Qandahar, Afghanistan's second largest, belong to his group.

He said that "any change would be welcomed" in the arms delivery procedure, adding that the rebels would shortly be able to assure suppliers of a "sure place, a location where it will be possible to land in all security to deliver the arms."

Mr. Gaylani denied however that weapons had already been delivered directly to the rebels and made no mention of any third country, but he said that direct deliveries would be "more just."

Moderate and traditionalist factions within the resistance have often bitterly complained about the special treatment received by the more fundamentalist groups, particularly the Hezb-e Eslami led by Gulbuddin Hikmatyar.

"Supplies were from the beginning in the hands of Pakistan and Hikmatyar received by himself 40 to 60 percent of the weapons. The other (groups) would have to share the rest," said a rebel close to Mr. Gaylani.

"Today we see things differently, especially since the Americans have direct contacts with the resistance without resorting to middlemen," said the rebel.

Pakistani President Ishaq Khan has assured the mujahidin that Islamabad would not change its Afghan policy, but the government may change after the November elections.

The two candidates considered as favorites for the post of prime minister, former Premier Mohammad Khan Junejo and Benazir Bhutto, have remained vague in their statements.

Mr. Junejo has said he would strictly stick by the Geneva peace accords on Afghanistan, whereas Miss Bhutto, whose opposition party is not known for pro-U.S. views, has not committed herself.

Government, Mujahidin Armed Clashes Continue

Jet Downed Over Paktia

BK0609143588 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Text] According to a report, the mujahidin in Afghanistan carried out a concerted attack on the (Fer Kowt) military base on Sunday [4 September] and captured all posts around it. The mujahidin destroyed a helicopter and a tank in the attack and seized 25 Kalashnikov rifles and ammunition.

In Nangarhar Province, the mujahidin destroyed two military posts in various operations near Tangi and in Jalalabad. More than 30 soldiers of the Kabul regime were killed in these operations, and two tanks, four vehicles, four heavy machine guns and a mortar (?position) were destroyed.

The mujahidin also shot down a jet aircraft in the Seyyed Karam area.

Troops Dispatched to Qandahar

BK0309155188 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 3 Sep 88

[Text] According to a report, thousands of troops of the Kabul regime have been dispatched to Qandahar where they have taken up positions at the airport. Several hundred troops and sophisticated weapons were also airlifted to Qandahar in helicopters during the last 3 days. The operation follows the mujahidin's occupation of a big cantonment last Wednesday [31 August] 12 kilometers from Qandahar. Mujahidin are reported to be only 4 to 5 kilometers from the center of the Qandahar City. They have occupied many villages and subdistricts during their progress toward Qandahar.

Jalalabad Rocket Attack Kills 1

BK0509110088 Hong Kong AFP in English 1025 GMT 5 Sep 88

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 5 (AFP)—Afghan rebels launched a rocket attack on the eastern garrison town of Jalalabad, killing one person and wounding two, the official Afghan News Agency BAKHTAR reported Monday.

BAKHTAR said in a report monitored here the mujahidin had fired several surface-to-surface rockets on residential areas of Jalalabad, the capital of Nangarhar Province, Sunday.

The BAKHTAR dispatch followed reports from resistance sources here Sunday that the rebels were intensifying attacks on Jalalabad and had blown up two bridges near the town Wednesday.

The rebel sources said 50 Afghan soldiers were killed or wounded last week in a clash on the main highway between Jalalabad and Kabul. The highway remained closed for 24 hours, they said.

BAKHTAR also claimed that internecine fighting was raging between rebel groups in the southern province of Ghazni.

It said seven guerrillas were killed and several wounded in clashes in the province's Qara Bagh district between fighters of the Iran-based NASR group and the Pakistan-based Hezb-e Eslami and Harakat-e Eslami rebel groups.

The fighting was over the distribution of war booty, the agency said, without giving the date of the clash.

It said "two Arab military advisors helping the Hezb-e Eslami" were also killed and two captured by rival groups. The agency gave no further details.

Three civilians were also killed in the fighting which left over 100 houses and 32 shops destroyed, the agency added.

Helicopter Downed in Konduz

BK0609154588 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Excerpts] According to a report, the mujahidin in Afghanistan carried out a concerted attack on (Fer Kowt) military base on Sunday [4 September] and captured all posts around it. [passage omitted]

Reports say that during the fighting in the Konduz area on Friday, the mujahidin shot down a helicopter proceeding to Mazar-e Sharif and destroyed a MiG plane and one MI-8 helicopter by attacking the Konduz airport. The mujahidin shot down a jet aircraft near Asmar in Konarha Province and captured its two pilots. On the same day, another plane was also shot down near (Fidal).

Afghan news agency reports from Kabul said that the mujahidin during a number of operations in the Paghman area last Wednesday killed at least 25 soldiers, including 2 officers, and destroyed two tanks and three vehicles.

Rebel Offensive in Qandahar

BK0709065088 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the mujahidin have forced a platoon of the Kabul administration's air defense force to vacate Shah Vali Kowt district in Qandahar Province. The mujahidin set fire to seven trucks and seized another seven. In addition to this, despite heavy air attacks, they seized six anti-aircraft guns and a large quantity of ammunition. The reports say that the mujahidin occupied a nearby post (Kandigan) on Saturday [3 September], capturing 40 soldiers of the Kabul administration and seizing seven heavy guns.

Residents Hoarding Food, Fuel for Winter 'Crisis'

BK0609124188 Hong Kong AFP in English 1213 GMT 6 Sep 88

[By Sami Zubieri]

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 6 (AFP)—Afghans have started hoarding food and fuel in anticipation of an emergency situation the country is likely to face during the coming winter, Western diplomats said here Tuesday.

Residents in Kabul were expecting a major energy and food crisis in the country, they said, adding that long queues were observed at filling stations last week following rumours of an impending petrol shortage.

The Soviet-backed government, admitting shortages of the domestic fuel, kerosene oil, said they were "due to transport problems."

In a statement carried by THE KABUL TIMES the government also said that petrol (gasoline) supplies for the city had increased 10-15 percent since last year.

But the diplomats said Tuesday that ordinary Afghans realised that supplies from the Soviet Union looked "fragile", and feared the situation would deteriorate from now on.

Already, in the capital Kabul itself, the diplomats said, with the exception of ruling party, government and other official buildings, electricity is available only 6-12 hours a day.

"The gasolene supplies are not yet tight but hoarding has already begun," the diplomats said, predicting that "the situation will get far worse this winter."

Afghan official media stories trumpetting the installation of more electric power facilities for city consumers, "are dismissed as fabrications by Kabul residents," they said.

Besides energy problems, the availability of food is also affected by the fighting between government forces and well-armed Afghan rebels in the north and repeated guerrilla attacks on the highways linking major cities, Afghan observers said.

As the Soviet troops began evecuating Afghanistan under the Geneva accord of April 14, resistance activity intensified in Afghanistan. The nine-month phased withdrawal started mid-May is scheduled to end by February next year, leaving the country's control in the hand of Afghan troops battling the anti-communist rebels.

Diplomats said the rebels were blocking supplies on the Salang highway linking Kabul with the Soviet border and also hijacking convoys on roads in the south. The Soviets were at places avoiding direct confrontations, they added.

Last week Soviet troops were seen "helping the mujahidin unload a lorry load of sugar they had captured" on its way south on the Salang highway, the diplomats said.

They also said that rebel commander Ahmad Shah Mas'ud continues to be strong in the north, adding that he had recently written to Tajiks from his region living in Kabul asking for all doctors, engineers, architects and technicians to come under his protection and help rebuild his stronghold in the Panjsher area.

He is offering good salaries, confirming his concern for civil administration in his own region, the diplomats said.

Regime control of the Jalalabad-Kabul road was also weakened with the capture of several towns on the highway in the east. Communications with Qandahar in the south and Herat in the west were also hampered by the resistance forces, they said.

Foreign embassies have already reduced the presence of their missions in Qandahar and Jalalabad, and families have also been withdrawn from Kabul, the diplomats said.

The regime has recently relaxed restrictions in obtaining international travel passports and has reduced passport fees sharply.

Passport applicants were crowding the Interior Ministry, the diplomats said, adding that so far some 50,000 applications have been lodged. Western missions were also reporting a rise in visa applications.

Afghan families, mostly those who supported the government, are taking opportunities to get out of Afghanistan, while families who are not able to go abroad are laying in stocks of food ready for difficult times, the diplomats added.

India

President's Rule in Mizoram; Assembly Dissolved

BK0709080788 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Text] Mizoram has been brought under president's rule. The state legislative assembly has been dissolved. A presidential proclamation issued in New Delhi today says this step has been taken under Article 256 of the Constitution as the president is satisfied that a situation has arisen in which the administration in the state of Mizoram cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

The proclamation says the president has assumed all the functions of the state government.

The state governor, Mr Hiteswar Saikia, had earlier recommended imposition of president's rule after the Laldenga ministry was reduced to a minority. The union cabinet considered the governor's report and recommended to the president imposition of president's rule in Mizoram. Today's development brings to an end the 10-day political impasse in the state which was sparked off by the split in the ruling Mizo National Front.

President's Rule Denounced

BK0709091688 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Excerpts] Mizoram has been brought under the president's rule. The state assembly has been dissolved. [passage omitted]

Reacting to the proclamation of the president's rule, the outgoing chief minister, Mr Laldenga, said the dissolution of the assembly when he was trying to seek a vote of confidence was undemocratic and unconstitutional. The speaker, Mr J. Thanguahuama, said he hopes the elections will be held with the least possible delay.

West Bengal Assembly Passes Gurkha Council Bill

BK0509164088 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Sep 88

[Text] The West Bengal Assembly today unanimously passed the Darjeeling Hill Gurkha Council Bill 1988. The bill provides for establishment of a council covering three hill subdivisions namely Darjeeling, Kurseong, and Kalimpong and some contiguous of Siliguri subdivision.

Introducing the bill in the assembly, the chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu, said the formation of the hill council as provided for in the bill will go a long way in meeting the democratic aspiration of the people of hill areas. The success of this agreement will depend on the exercise of goodwill and restraint on the part of all concerned.

Air Calcutta correspondent reports that the Darjeeling Gurkha Hill Council Bill containing 71 clauses defines the jurisdiction, power, and composition of the council.

Bomb Explodes in Punjab; 1 Killed, 1 Injured

BK0709080888 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Text] In Punjab, one person was killed and another injured in a powerful bomb explosion near Guru Govind Singh college in Chandigarh this morning. Reports say two persons were carrying the bomb on a cycle when the explosion took place. One person died on the spot, and the other who was seriously injured, was admitted to the hospital.

Iran

Khomeyni Writes Musavi Letter on Resignation

LD0609174488 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Text] Following the resignation of Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn [Musavi], which was not accepted by President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the imam of the ummah addressed a letter to the prime minister. The full text of the letter is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Your Excellency, Mr Musavi, esteemed prime minister. Your resignation letter caused some surprise, because, if you had decided to resign, you should have at least mentioned something about it to me or the higher-ranking officials of the order. These days when the Hezbollah people are sending their children to the fronts

of sacrifice to assist Islam, is no time to complain and resign. You should continue your service in your bastion as prime minister within the framework of Islam and the Constitution.

In the event that you fail to reach agreement regarding some ministers, [reference to Majlis debate on cabinet] actions will be carried out as they were in the past. It is the legal right of the Islamic Consultative Assembly to vote for any minister that it so desires. Punishments will from now on be the prerogative of the Assembly for Ascertaining the Interest, which will, if it deems necessary, place any amount of authority that it desires at the disposal of the government.

We should all take refuge in God. In moments of anger, we should not do things that will be taken advantage of by the enemies of Islam. Our people have seen many such issues during the course of the revolution. These moves will not have any effect on the original and fundamental paths of the Islamic Revolution of Iran. Since I am fond of you, God willing, in our next meeting I shall council you on some issues. Greetings.

[Signed] Ruhollah al-Musavi Khomeyni, 6 September 1988

Musavi Withdraws Resignation

NC0709045588 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that following the points made by the imam of the ummah to Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi with regard to the latter's resignation, Mr Mir Hoseyn Musavi sent a letter to the imam of the ummah last night in which he withdraw his resignation. The text of Mr Musavi's letter is as follows:

In the name of God, the almighty, the merciful. To the auspicious presence of the leadership, His Holiness Imam Khomeyni, may your shadow be extended.

Greetings and salutations. I listened to Your Excellency's fatherly admonition very attentively. I consider it an honor and advisable to follow the lofty leadership and withdraw my resignation, which I had tendered with compassion toward Islam and the revolution and for the interest of the country.

I will discuss the issues which I believe to be in the interests of the country with you personally. I was, and continue to be, an obedient disciple of the leadership.

[Signed] Mir Moseyn Musavi, prime minister

IRNA on Musavi Letter

LD0709044288 Tehran IRNA in English 0438 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 7, IRNA—Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi in a letter to Imam Khomeyni Tuesday night took back his resignation which he submitted to President 'Ali Khamene'i Monday night.

The prime minister sent the letter to the Imam after the latter called on Musavi to continue serving as the prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Musavi's resignation was earlier turned down by President 'Ali Khamene'i Tuesday.

Musavi said that honour and propriety rests in following the Imam and that he now agrees to take back his resignation which he had submitted "out of concern for Islam and the revolution and the interests of the country."

Khomeyni Sends Message to Pakistani Ulema

LD0509141388 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Sep 88

[Text] In reply to cables and messages from the people and ulema of Pakistan about the martyrdom of 'Allameh 'Arif Hoseyn Hoseyni and on the eve of the 40th day of the martyrdom of that esteemed martyr, Imam Khomeyni, the great leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran sent a message to the people and ulema of Pakistan, as follows:

In the name of God the compassionate, the merciful: your excellencies ulema and hojaj-e eslam and great nation of Pakistan, may God support them.

I received your messages and cables of congratulations and condolences about the martyrdom of His Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Arif Hoseyn al-Hoseyni, that faithful ally of Islam and the revolution and defender of the deprived and oppressed, that true son of the lord and master of martyrs, His Excellency Imam Hoseyn, peace be upon him.

Although this great incident upset the Muslim and especially the committed clergymen of Islam, it was not unexpected and deprived world nations and especially the great Pakistani nation, who have tasted the bitterness of colonialism and have gained their independence through struggle, jihad, and martyrdom.

Those sufferers in Islamic societies, those who have sworn allegience to the deprived and the barefooted, should note that they are at the start of the struggle. To break the barriers of colonialism and exploitation and reach genuine Muhammadan Islam they have a long way to go. For the likes of Allameh 'Arif Hoseyn Hoseyni, there is no honor greater than to be martyred for their faith and truth and witness the attainment of the source of light by thousands who thirst for justice.

The biggest difference between the committed ulema and clergymen of Islam and pseudoclergy is that the struggling ulema of Islam are constantly targets of poison darts of world-devourers, and the first shots have been aimed at their hearts, while, under the protection of gold-lovers who seek to rule the world, the others have been singing their praise, have been their yes-men and propagated evil.

So far, we have not seen a courtier or Wahhabi cleryman stand up against oppression, paganism, and blasphemy, especially the aggressor Soviet Union and world-devourer United States. Likewise, we have not seen a true clergyman, who is in the service of God and God's creatures, sit still for a minute and not fight paganism and blasphemy to the end. 'Arif Hoseyni was such a man.

Islamic nations have surely realized the reason for this incident. Surely they know why in Iran the likes of Motahhari, Beheshti, martyred clergymen and other dear ulema; in Iraq the likes of Sadr and Hakim; in Lebanon, the likes of Raghib Harb and Kuraym; in Pakistan, the likes of 'Arif Hoseyni; and in all other countries, suffering clergymen of Islam in the name of Muhammad—peace and God's mercy be upon him and his clan—are targets of conspiracies and assassinations.

The honorable and Muslim people of Pakistan, who are truly revolutionary and faithful to Islamic standards, and who have had longstanding warm, revolutionary, ideological, and cultural ties with us, must keep the thoughts of that great person alive and not let sons of Satan prevent the growth of genuine Muhammadan islam.

Today, the arrogance of East and West, which has been unsuccessful in direct confrontation with the Islamic world, has resorted to assassinating some religious and political figures on the one hand, and to propagating U.S.-style Islam on the other.

I wish that all acts of aggression by world-devourers were as overt and direct as the Soviet aggression against Muslim and hero-nurturing Afghanistan, so that the Muslims would shatter the false might and reputation of the usurpers.

The method of fighting U.S.-style Islam is particularly complex. All its aspects should be clarified for barefooted Muslims. Unfortunately, for many Islamic nations, the line between U.S.-style Islam and genuine Muhammadan Islam—the Islam of the barefooted and deprived and the Islam of dogmatic pseudoholymen and ungodly capitalists and insensitive affluent people—has not been clearly defined, to clarify the fact that it is not possible for opposite and contradictory points to exist in an ideology and a religion is a very important political requisite. If this duty had been carried out by the seminaries, our dear Seyyed would very likely still be with us.

It is the duty of all clergymen to clarify these two points to save dear Islam from lackeys of East and West. Of course, the blood of these dear martyrs will remove all the dirt and dust from the path of the attainment of spiritual values and cast all false-propagators to the sea. But we should not overlook the point that, today, all enemies of Islam are on full alert; all the world-devourers are wide awake.

The day when arrogance East and West put the Muslims to sleep and was riding high on good fortune, it spoke of a great natural threat called Islam and the Koran. But, today, when the USSR and United States have sufferred hundreds of political, military, and cultural blows, following the holy Islamic revolution of Iran, and all over the world Islam's warning bells are ringing against all their vital interests, the guile and deception of East and West should be understood and neutralized.

Muslim nations must adopt the principle that the superpowers are hostile and deceitful toward them unless they see, feel, and believe its visual and practical opposite.

We have sworn allegience to God, the prophet and the innocent imams, peace be upon them. We must seriously hate and and be alien to anything against their will. And we should be proud of this alienation.

I express my congratulations and condolences to the committed clergy of Islam, the honorable family of that martyr and the Muslim nation of Pakistan for the martyrdom of Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Arif Hoseyn Hoseyni. I assure all my Muslim brothers and sisters in that country that Islamic Iran stands by you, and as a trusty friend and a strong trench, it will defend your Islamic honor, dignity, independence, and credibility.

I have lost a dear son. May God Almighty give all of us the strength to tolerate all hardship and to continue the glorious path of the martyrs, more than ever, and revert the plots and ploys of the oppressors back to themselves, and keep the nation of Islam steadfast in the path of jihad and martyrdom. Peace be upon the virtuous and the pious.

[Dated] 5 September 1988

[Signed] Ruhollah al-Musavi al-Khomeyni

Musavi Interviewed on 'Peace and Reconstruction'
NC0209161388 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1342 GMT 2 Sep 88

[Interview with Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi by Voice and Vision correspondent Musavi and 'Abd ol-Naser Hemmati, general director of the Central News Unit; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent Musavi] Greetings to you dear viewers, and greetings to the pure spirits of all the martyrs of the Islamic revolution, especially the dear martyrs

Raja'i and Bahonar, those two devoted friends and supporters of the revolution in whose memory Government Week is being observed. Together with my colleague Mr 'Abd ol-Naser Hemmati, general director of the Central News Unit, we will talk with His Excellency Engineer Mir Hoseyn Musavi about political, social, and economic issues of the day. We hope this friendly conversation can clarify the basic activities of the current government. We will start the program after brief remarks by our guests. Please continue, Eng Musavi.

[Musavi] In the name of God, the almighty, the merciful. Greetings to the dear viewers of the Voice and Vision and our martyr-nurturing people. As pointed out by our brother Mr Musavi, this is Government Week—when the government's activities are studied. Both the people and the government study the outcome of activities. It is especially a week of support for the values and principles for which we sacrificed valuable martyrs during the revolution. Having values naturally demands devotion and selflessness. It is also a week for commemorating the martyrs Raja'i and Bahonar—epitomes of committed, revolutionary, and devoted officials with close bonds to the people. The people know this.

During this week, the government's activities are assessed. Of course, when I use the word government, I do not mean only the 24 ministers, because this would show ingratitude toward the efforts of all the committed and revolutionary experts and officials of our country. There are people in companies, in the Voice and Vision, in the government, and in various positions in the ministries who have been able to keep the government going, supporting our nation's resistance.

I have nothing to add and am at your disposal.

[Hemmati] I, in turn, greet the dear viewers and once again thank His Excellency Mr Musavi for cooperating with the Voice and Vision and attending this program. As Mr Musavi pointed out, I hope that, God willing, we can review the government's activities in view of the special conditions created in our country and thus address some of the topics discussed in society, and God willing, reach useful results at the end of our conversation.

[Correspondent Musavi] Your Excellency, Mr Musavi, we are on the eve of the 10th anniversary of the Islamic revolution. Undoubtedly, we can say that the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran has been one of the most popular in the world during this era. This is no exaggeration. It is the system of the government that you head. During this period, this system has been through various vicissitudes and faced various plots. I think one of the most important things that has helped us tread this path has been the comprehensive support of the people—especially the imam—for your government. Of course, this is in addition to the fact that you are very able and experienced. When looking back at the path that has been followed, what elements do you think helped us reach this point?

[Musavi] Your question is important. Of course, I will emphasize the support of his holiness the imam and the people, to which you also referred. This was the most important factor, and the bases of the strength of our system are this leadership and the people, and all other strengths stem from this. What helped us tread this path was the presence of this strength at its zenith in all scenes: at the fronts, in the government, on our farmlands, and in our factories, villages, and cities. This allowed us to tread this path faced with so many vicissitudes—when everyone wanted the system to fall apart—and to be here now with strength and power.

[Hemmati] Let us continue our main conversation. The most important topic the people now face is the Geneva talks. In view of the importance of these talks, I think we should base our question on what is happening there and the future of the talks. Despite the fact that we heard recently that the talks had reached a stalemate, reports recently received indicate that an opening can be seen in the talks. However, it is not improbable that the Iraqi regime will continue its obstructionism in the future. It is believed the superpowers play some kind of role behind the Iraqi obstructionism and that they are trying to use these obstacles as a tool to inflict pressure on our nation. This is the presumption. How do you assess the talks and the chance for lasting peace in the region? Can one be confident that lasting peace will be created?

[Musavi] I will start by answering the last part of your question. Lasting peace depends on our readiness for war. The more ready we are, the greater the chances for peace. We are a revolution with an ideology that has a motive on the world level. It is not a nationalistic ideology, willing to harness itself and be placed within the framework of a border. Naturally, it will have enemies. Therefore it should be strong. Of course, I pointed out earlier that this strength stems from the comprehensive presence of the people on the scene. This is manifested in various ways, including our military readiness on the scene and at the fronts.

As for Geneva, from the very beginning we met extensive obstructionism by the Iraqi regime because of its domestic problems. It is seeking certain gains for domestic consumption. This is why it has celebrated during the days of the cease-fire. As for what it has achieved, this is questionable. As a result, it needs to give its nation something in order to convince it. This is one motive. Another factor is its aggressive nature. All these wars have stemmed from its aggressive nature. Behind all this, we believe it is highly probable that various powers may be interfering in one way or another. In the first days before the Geneva talks, the Western mass media—citing U.S. analysts—said that the United States should stop relying on its military fleet in the Hormuz Strait and direct its attention toward the Geneva talks, because even though it is not directly involved in the talks it can affect the domestic situations in Iran and Iraq. They are playing with various tools.

As for us, comprehensive alertness on the fronts and within the country, as well as frankness and sincerity in the talks, should take place based on the principles of the ideals of the Islamic revolution. If we are strong in all these areas, the future will undoubtedly benefit the region and the Islamic revolution.

[Hemmati] In view of what you have said, if this readiness continues and leads to peace, how do you see the future of the region? I mean in terms of the infiltration of the powers in the region, especially in the Persian Gulf. How do you assess this? Will this [peace] lessen their infiltration or increase it? It is said that after the solution of the Iran-Iraq war, the big powers may definitely try through various means to infiltrate and maintain their interests. How do you assess the future of the region in this regard?

[Musavi] The Middle East has been described justly as the world's most sensitive point. Here the interests of various powers are in conflict, and the interests of the big powers are in conflict with the interests of the regional countries. The ideal objectives of regional nations would undoubtedly be completely different from what the United States, the Soviet Union, and other powers want. Soviet interests contradict U.S. interests. Even within blocs, European and U.S. interests—in the framework of their general goals—have some contradictions. For example, Britain and the United States have differing interests in the Persian Gulf. Thus, the end of the war does not mean an end to clashes of interests or the end of the big powers' ambitions in the region. Nor will it mean an end to the demand by nations to control their own destiny. Undoubtedly, the great wish that has emerged in regional nations for independence and for fulfilling Islamic values in their societies and the return to their Islamic identity will all help to maintain the fervent atmosphere of this region. Of course, the military aspect will die down to a large extent. However, I do not think that after the war we will suddenly see an atmosphere in the region in which all fires have been extinguished. If this happened I believe it would mean that arrogance had gained 100 percent influence in the region, which seems impossible.

[Correspondent Musavi] Talk has been heard recently about strengthening of the country's defense structure. Does this mean that from now on we will direct what had been used for the war toward strengthening our defense structure, or do you foresee new plans since reconstruction is a parallel issue?

[Musavi] In our programs, basic priorities continue to concern strengthening the defense structure. This is why we will allocate a considerable amount to this. The armed forces of a country and a system are actually that country's source of grandeur and respect and a deterrent of danger. At the beginning of the war, Saddam's regime thought we did not have an armed force. The IRGC had not been formed in its true sense. Thus, they entertained the idea of coming and occupying Khuzestan and the three islands. These were their ambitions. If we had then had a cohesive and revolutionary army they would not have entertained such ideas. That is why we should continue with this strength in the future. However, as far as form and content, this is now being discussed at the General Command Staff, which returns to the message issued by his holiness the imam in relation to the Armed Forces and our dear brother His Excellency Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

[Correspondent Musavi] I have another question related to this. Most of your government programs—from the beginning—were drawn up during the war. In light of this fact, If the talks in Geneva under the auspices of the UN secretary general lead to a lasting peace, will you have to make fundamental changes in your programs or will you be able to continue these programs in one way or another?

[Musavi] You have made a good point. The government has always been at war. Certainly the end of the war will bring about some changes. We should have no doubts about this. However, these changes should be aimed at strengthening the achievements we gained during the war. This is very important. During the war we gained self-confidence. We expanded research. Our forces, which had lost weapons, tanks, artillery, and aircraft, now feel they can stand on their own feet, much to the fear of the superpowers. This has had its impact on our industries, farmlands, economy, policies, and culture. These are the great achievements we should strongly defend and expand. During peacetime these achievements will flourish if we do not make mistakes in our policies, God willing.

[Hemmati] You referred to the period of peace and reconstruction. One of the most important issues we are facing is that of the reconstruction of the economy. Important issues have emerged from this, and there have been many discussions by experts and, mainly, nonexperts on this. Apparently we do not have a general consensus yet as far as the policy of reconstruction is concerned. To put it very clearly, even mere remarks about reconstruction by officials have resulted in reactions—since they are considered an official view—in the market, on the economy, and even abroad. But when this view is reviewed, changed, or revised, there are again other reactions. This certainly does not benefit our economy. My question is: Have you developed a special policy on reconstruction? If not, what plans are there for this policy?

[Musavi] As far as the problems of the period of peace are concerned, I should repeat what his holiness has said—that we are still at war. This should be repeated constantly so that we do not become complacent. I want to say this first of all. Then let us assume that we achieve peace. Extensive studies are being carried out by experts in the government. In other words, the Ministry of Planning and Budget and other organizations are now

working on this. Several programs have been developed for the government so far. However, because of its vastness, naturally a final result has not yet been reached. [passage omitted]

We should move realistically on the basis of a correct estimation of our domestic resources. We should grant priorities, trying to direct the most attention to production. [passage omitted]

As far as general economic and financial policies are concerned, I think we have approached certain turning points. However, efforts are now aimed at accelerating this. The Planning and Budget Committee of the Majlis is working toward this. God willing, the results of these general policies—as the imam has instructed—will be submitted to the meeting he mentioned in Shahrivar [month ending 22 September]. As soon as decisions are made on these general policies, naturally implementation can begin.

[Hemmati] Mr Musavi, have steps been taken so that these decisions will not, God forbid, lead to more dependence when implemented? You yourself are aware that a decision may be good in itself, but when it comes to implementation it could place us on a path from which we would have to retreat after 3 or 4 years. My question is: Why should we be so hasty in compiling reconstruction policies? Is it not better to sit down and concentrate more on prioritizing decisions and carrying out a vaster and more long-term study by experts in terms of implementation and materialization of the general policies you noted? Do you not agree?

[Musavi] Yes. What you are saying is correct in principle. However, there are a few factors that affect this. First, if we do not develop policies, the world will do so for us on the basis of mistaken ideas. This could force the government to make decisions that do not benefit the country. Therefore, this should be done. Second, the truth is that throughout the vicissitudes of the war the government has compiled many programs. [passage omitted]

Last year, when we feared the economic siege, U.S. ships had come to the Persian Gulf, and there was a possibility of our being placed under great pressure—and we should tell the people this so that they will know—we prepared ourselves for the worst possible conditions: the closing of our ports and borders, with the assumption that we had to resist. We could not surrender. Islam does not accept surrender. With the participation of ministers, within 2 months we prepared a highly confidential program at the Prime Ministry. The program specified the critical points in our economy, and programs were drawn up for them. Now that we have had programming experience, all the ministries have actually gained. [passage omitted]

You referred to another important point among the principles on which decisions have been made in the government. The government will strongly support maintaining our independence, which is the idea of His Holiness the Imam and a tenet on which the respected heads of the three branches also rely. We will certainly not repeat the experience of the monarchy. Dependence is not something we would approach carelessly. Therefore, any program will aim at achieving the objectives and ideals of the Islamic revolution, preserving the country's independence, and preventing a structual fusion between us and the superpowers.

[Hemmati] I think it was in 1362 [year beginning 21 March 1983] that the Islamic Republic's first 5-year program was compiled. The reason for my previous question is that that program had some ambitious objectives, foreseeing that the price of oil would not fall below $30. It was on the basis of this very optimistic assumption that forecasts were made for all the other economic parameters, such as the rate of agricultural growth in 5 years. Immediately after the drop in the price of oil the program was blown away. My question was concerned more with whether we are thinking of granting priority in our economic policy-making on this realistic approach, far from ambitions that may affect us in the future? Specifically, are we thinking of ways to lessen the impact of foreign elements on our economic programs? This is what I meant to ask.

[Musavi] I understand what you are saying. As far as the first program you referred to, this was based generally on two things. One was that basically our knowledge of the country's economic facts was very small. An immense operation began to identify national resources, potentials, objectives, and programs in provinces and even in towns, to use this input in a 5-year program.

However, as you pointed out, when it came to our calculations on foreign exchange resources we were overly optimistic, and the program was compiled on a base figure of $24 billion. The assumption was that the price of oil would not drop, but oil prices started to drop. However, the information we gathered from around the country is still useful to us now. In other words, the program started to have an impact on various organs, but it was questioned in general. This led to a decision by the Majlis deputies to discuss the main lines of the country's development and its strategy. This is being discussed at the Majlis now. The facts we possess now are more realistc than the 1362 program, because we regard the program now on the basis of the difficult and grave conditions that prevailed during the war. After the war we want to see how this can be developed in general. We will try to maintain the basic elements. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent Musavi] As his holiness the imam pointed out, and you stated, the war has not yet ended. The peace talks are continuing, and there is a possibility that Iraq will renew its obstructionism. Unfortunately, immediately after the news of the cease-fire, we heard rumors from various parts of the country that the public's expectations had risen in terms of increased welfare

facilities. Of course, many of the country's problems during the war had no connection with the war. Each problem could be solved independently. However, some may have attributed possible carelessness to the war, saying that since we are at war this or that was not done. However, the reality is that, first of all, the war has not ended. I think this is the government's general policy also. We have many basic programs which, as you stated, should be followed up, instead of turning to consumer issues. Of course, the enemy's provocations are behind all these. The world's mass media—especially our enemies—are fanning these flames in a bid to raise the people's expectations and pressure the government to increase welfare facilities. What is your view of this and the recent propaganda about it?

[Musavi] In part of the imam's remarks there was a very clear reference to this, and it was a great help to the government. Since this is a sensitive issue, allow me to elaborate, because if I do not some profiteerers may exploit it. The imam said that we were at war for 8 years. They hit our factories and more. Therefore, one should not expect everything to be remedied in 2 days. The people should help. Once again the imam called on the people to assist the government. Their assistance has been the government's biggest asset. He also stated the reality for the people. Certainly with the faith the people have in the leader of the revolution, this will have extraordinary impact in affairs after [the war].

Now I would like to say that the 8 years—or the number of years that the reconstruction will last, according to his holiness—will be the number of years needed. However, we have happy news for both his holiness the imam and the people. If, God willing, the country stands on principle policies, we will be able to put things in order much faster than the foreigners predict. I think we may hear: You cannot do this, so let the foreigners come and build for you and give you foreign exchange and credit. This is the situation. However, the people have a just demand for welfare, and the government should do its best. Of course, when we discuss the capabilities of the system we see that the people adjust their demands. Therefore, I should say at this point that when we say the main burden of the war was shouldered by the people, we should also note that it was because of their alertness and clear outlook that they were able to do so. Especially if we tell the people that the country is not rich... [changes thought] the country is rich. If we work on some of the projects to which I referred, we will, God willing, have a strong and powerful economy with a high level of employment and production. However, we should say parallel to this that after the cease-fire some of the psychological elements of the war were automatically removed and led to a drop in prices. This, too, is something we should not ignore. [passage omitted] At any rate, this psychological aspect of the war has had its impact. There is a type of abundance now. [passage omitted] In the future, God willing, we will see this situation continue. There may be ups and downs, but on the whole I believe prices will stabilize under the effect of these psychological elements stemming from the cease-fire.

[Hemmati] Mr Musavi, as for prices, much of our inflation has stemmed from the psychological impact of the war. This is natural. However, in view of the difficulties we face in terms of our economic structure and, at any rate, our problems in reconstruction—the major programs you referred to—all these need large amounts of foreign exchange and very great capability. It is very naive of us to think that in the very near future inflation will suddenly reach a very logical and low level. Therefore, I think the government should concentrate much of its capability in its financial policies on how to lower this. What is your excellency's view?

[Musavi] Governments usually have some major duties that can be counted on the fingers of one hand. One is controlling inflation and another employment. These are among the government's duties under any conditions, unless it is inattentive to problems. Under these conditions it is natural that after the war we will heed this in all our policies. It is true that if our production is increased we will have a reduction in inflation. However, we need time to achieve healthy production. As I pointed out, our resources are limited. We do not want to create a problem for ourselves as far as production and political and economic independence are concerned by importing great quantities of consumer goods. This is another of our policies. For this reason, in the postwar period the government should heed this in all its decisions. The government should pay necessary attention to staple products and so on so that it can control prices as much as possible for the oppressed after the war, as we did during the war. Our monetary, financial, and taxation policies—used for the country's budget plans and investments—should all aim at increasing employment and controlling and even reducing inflation.

[Hemmati] [Passage omitted] A U.S. source said in 1973, at the time of the Arab oil embargo: They have the weapon of oil; we have the weapon of food. Apparently this issue requires special attention. In the policies that are now being studied in the Planning and Budget Ministry and other places, is agriculture being granted priority? Or will this issue be gradually forgotten, God forbid?

[Musavi] I would like to say something that may have not been mentioned. One of the secrets of our resistance throughout the war, despite the sieges and pressures—in the industrial, production, technological, and foreign exchange fields—was probably that in the gross national product the part played by the agricultural sector has been very great. In other words, our economy is more agricultural than industrial. Agriculture is the area in which less foreign exchange is spent and higher production is obtained. In other words, if we compare our agricultural production to the foreign exchange it requires, there is no comparison with the industrial sector. This allowed us to resist. In other words, the country's major wealth was produced in a sector that needed the least foreign exchange. In the future we should pay attention to this. This is among the government's priorities now.

Many of the petrochemical plants that will become operational will be producing either pesticides or chemical fertilizers. During the war, even though we granted priority and spent relatively large portions of foreign exchange in agriculture for the purchase of chemical fertilizers, we still faced shortages. In the future, God willing, it will be abundant. The construction of dams and irrigation networks is among the most important programs now. Very good projects have been foreseen for Khuzestan, including a 10,000-hectare sugar beet project that can produce nearly 1 million tonnes of sugar, 300,000 tonnes of paper, and [fertilizers] for about 80,000 tonnes of red meat.

These are among the things the government is concentrating on. Moreover, I should explain to my brothers that growth in the industrial sector helps growth in agriculture. Agriculture can be helped when heavy industry and petrochemical industry grow. Agriculture is backward in countries that lack the necessary industrial growth. In my opinion, the fates of the agricultural and industrial sectors are greatly intertwined in countries of the Third World if these countries want to operate on a principled basis.

[Correspondent Musavi] There are many topics, and I do not think we will have time to discuss them all. My request is that we sum up. There is an issue I think should be propounded, since it is a topic being discussed these days. If the talks conclude successfully—when, I do not know—the combatants who have been on the fronts from the outset of the war have been unable, like many of the people behind the fronts, to study and to find jobs, will return. These combatants went to the fronts at the beginning, are there today on the imam's orders, and they will remain there as long as necessary. If the war ends many of these volunteers, basijis, and selfless people will return from the fronts. If we do not have programs for them we will definitely face problems. Have you thought of how to use these selfless forces in the country's executive system, at the managerial level, and to train them in various fields? Does the government have programs for this?

[Hemmati] Mr Musavi, your question was longer than any of the questions so far.

[Musavi] [laughing] Of course, he gave some explanations himself.

[Correspondent Musavi] This will not be repeated.

[Musavi] This is an important point, of course. I should state that whatever service we offer to the combatants and the dear disabled people who are reminders of this war, of the spectacular resistance of our nation, will be very little. Their education and similar issues are minor in comparison with the great services they have rendered. [passage omitted]

Since our disabled brothers complained about their treatment [by society], I should emphasize: You are right; the government should find better solutions so that your prestige as persons who have sacrificed an arm or an eye, who have been paralyzed, or who bear signs of the resistance for the sake of this revolution should be maintained parallel with welfare issues which we should naturally study. The same applies to the combatants. We should have special laws and regulations for both the combatants and the maimed—those who can work—in both the government and the private sector, so that these forces will be employed where possible. If they cannot work, their problems should be solved differently. The government has discussed the issue of the combatants. We are seeking good solutions to problems. [passage omitted]

[Hemmati] As for supporting the deprived, my assumption is that we approached the issue more with slogans than practical and revolutionary plans. I think the Planning and Budget Ministry recently submitted a report to the government on the distribution of income. As far as I know, this report indicated that the differences in income throughout society have increased in recent years. This can be seen with a mere glance. Some of this stemmed from the problems created for the government and the country by the arrogant powers. However, some stemmed from our policies, our practical policies. How do you assess this, and what plans are there for this in the future?

[Musavi] Supporting the oppressed should not be equated with granting a limited amount of possibilities to a group of deprived people. This support should have its impact on all decisionmaking echelons. I would like to explain to the people that, on the basis of facts and figures, from the beginning of the revolution until 1363 [year beginning 21 March 1984], we see clearly that the income of the middle classes and the lower classes was increasing, while the income of our well-to-do classes was decreasing. A certain amount of wealth is produced in society. We should see what percentage of this wealth each class benefits from. [passage omitted] A country where 10 percent of the upper class benefits from a lesser percentage of the country's wealth enjoys a higher level of social justice and has a more just distribution of income. The same applies to the lower classes. [passage omitted] Yes, there has been an increase, but not to a great extent. We think our distribution and production policies and the use of our budget should have a definite direction. [passage omitted]

The same applies to our taxation policies. You may have noted that the government has said a great deal in recent years about this. Fortunately, society's views on this have changed to an extent. There were those in the beginning who, possibly speaking out of sympathy, said there should be no taxation. They thought the country could be run without taxes. Taxes are needed not only to run a country but are also necessary to adjust wealth and create social justice. You receive taxes from an entity with a high income and turn them into rural expenditures or build roads that serve the deprived. You build a

highway to the south of Khorasan, and suddenly you change the face of a large deprived area. The government is paying great attention to these policies. However, because of the psychological conditions created by the war and in order to confront hoarders and those who have exploited situations, we apparently need more determination by all of society's forces—influential forces such as clergymen, who are the vanguards, the Majlis, which is the legislative system, and the judicial force, which speaks from a position of arbitration—to solve this problem. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent Musavi] They are indicating that our time is up. In conclusion, I would like to ask you to speak, not as the head of the government but as a citizen. Are you satisfied with the government's services?

[Musavi] I am truly humble before the people and their generosity. However, I would like to tell the people something. This is the extent of our strength and might. We are doing our best. Your children, your brothers are doing all they can, without the help of foreigners. But this does not mean that the people should not want and should not protest and say: Why do you not correct things? This is the right of the people.

On the other hand, I would also like to say that the government is not selfish. It knows it has shortcomings and should work more. However, all efforts are being made, as far as I can see.

[Hemmati] My question refers to the remarks by his holiness the imam 3 days ago. He referred to an important point in reconstruction: the people's participation in commercial and economic activities and foreign commerce. I would like to ask you, in your capacity as the head of the government, what programs you will have in the future for the implementation of these views by the imam and how you assess the future of economic activities within this framework.

[Musavi] The remarks by his holiness the imam constitute a duty for us. However, after he issues the directives we start working on realities, laws, regulations, and policies, implementing them. What he stated will be conveyed to the ministries concerned, that is in the fields of industry, heavy industry, commerce, and others. I think this will create a flexibility in our foreign commerce. However, I should point out that in previous years, when we had some relief in foreign exchange, about 80 percent of imports were in the hands of the government, with the remainder in the hands of the private sector. This was when we had an abundance of foreign exchange.

Now the foreign exchange we obtain from oil is spent in special fields. It is used in industry, investments, and war. Part of the people's needs—small needs—should not be touched by the government. There is no need for the government to get involved in minor products. However, I think the imam's remarks are more concerned with strengthening exports and using foreign exchange gained from nonoil resources to import goods needed by the country under the government's supervision. His holiness said repeatedly that this should not lead to corruption, and he noted the government's supervision and control repeatedly. This needs strong policy. If we want this sector to be truly strengthened, the entire private sector should concentrate on exports, of course within the framework of the government's laws and regulations, bearing in mind the fields in which this activity should occur, so that, God forbid, it will not increase inflation and so that it will be in line with our priorities. If this is strengthened, naturally that part will also strengthen on the basis of the imam's directives.

[Correspondent Musavi] I thank you for having attended this program. We thank all the sincere officials of the government who did not refrain, even under the most difficult conditions, from serving the deprived and oppressed of this society. We thank you, dear viewers, for having been with us. God bless you.

Velayati Discusses Geneva Peace Talks Prospects

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1 Sep 88 p 4

["Text" of interview with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati by William Wisa in Geneva; date not given]

[Text] [Wisa] Observers believe you are not serious about peace because you accepted the cease-fire 1 year after the Iraqis accepted it. What is your view?

[Velayati] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We refute such talk. We are serious about peace. It is not true the Iranians accepted the resolution after 1 year. We did not reject Security Council Resolution No 598. Before we officially agreed to it, the Majlis speaker and the commander of the Armed Forces said we accept the resolution, but he called for changing the sequence of the first and sixth articles; that is, he asked that the sixth article take the place of the first article. When the UN secretary general was exchanging views with us regarding his plan to implement Resolution No 598, he told us that he would form a committee to identify the responsibility for the war at the same time the cease-fire announcement was made. This means the sequence of the articles will be different from what it was before. When that arrangement came closer to our point of view, we announced our acceptance of the resolution. Furthermore, we accepted the UN secretary general's plan for implementing Resolution No 598, while Iraq accepted it only recently, a plan that could bring about a solution. The Iraqis fear the committee responsible for identifying the aggressor and cannot openly accept that article in Resolution No 598. Everyone knows that. They made statements to the world press to prove that it was Iran, not Iraq, that began the war.

[Wisa] You have accepted the principle of direct negotiations with Iraq. So far, it appears the direct negotiations are taking place with the UN secretary general and not with the Iraqis.

Velayati laughs heartily and I repeat my question.

Why do you not want to talk directly with the Iraqis after you have agreed to do so?

[Velayati] We agreed to sit down with each other. Prior to the talks we sat down face to face, and we are now sitting face to face. What was required was carried out in that manner.

[Wisa] Do you believe the talks can take the form of genuine direct negotiations at a later stage?

[Velayati] It is the UN secretary general who is implementing the plan for executing Resolution No 598, and it is natural for him to be present at all the stages. He does not merely listen to what each side says, but he is active and effective.

[Wisa] However, my question does not pertain to the UN secretary general but to the dialogue between you and the Iraqi delegation. Why do you refuse to hold direct talks with the Iraqi delegation?

[Velayati] Because the Iraqis have not yet shown good intentions.

[Wisa] They say the same about you. However, what is your current assessment of the progress of negotiations?

[Velayati] So far, negotiations have been difficult.

[Wisa] Do you expect improvement in the atmosphere of talks in the next few days?

[Velayati] This depends on Iraq's ceasing to set preconditions.

[Wisa] Such as?

[Velayati] For example, the talks about the Shatt al-'Arab, or Arvand River, and dredging its waters simulaneously with the cease-fire talks.

[Wisa] Mr Minister, you know that clearing the Shatt al-'Arab will take a long time, months even years. Why do you not accept clearing the Shatt al-'Arab now, even under UN supervision, if you seek peace?

[Velayati] If both sides seek to resolve all the international problems they face as part of Resolution No 598, the implementation of this resolution would take years. Everything can be implemented in its own time. Did we come here to implement Resolution No 598 or all Iraq's demands? The resolution calls for a cease-fire, then for forming a committee to supervise its implementation, then for withdrawal to the borders, then for exchanging prisoners of war, then for a committee to define the aggressor, then for other matters. We do not object to discussing the clearing of the Shatt al-'Arab, but this should take place at the appropriate time. If we suppose several persons are sitting here to discuss issues, there must be someone to chair the meeting. Likewise, if such a meeting does not have an agenda and if each party talks about anything in any order, the meeting will not yield any results.

[Wisa] However, you did not agree to the details of cease-fire at sea, as Tariq 'Aziz said. This point is linked to the first article of the resolution, given you insist on implementing it according to its sequence.

[Velayati] We agreed to the cease-fire arrangements in a way that does not ignore our rights and without the Iraqis passing through the Strait of Hormuz. This is as if peace has been achieved. But in fact, we are now in the cease-fire phase. Cease-fire is one of several steps designed to attain peace. We permit the Iraqis to go through the Strait of Hormuz, but this should be an harmless step. They want dealings with them to take place in our territorial waters as if there were no problems with us. Moreover, their forces are still on our territory. Hence, what is the more important issue? Is it their forces' remaining on our territory or their right to free passage? If they want the right to "transit" the Strait of Hormuz just like other states, this should be realized according to the successive steps designed to achieve peace. We did not open fire on them at sea but searched their ships. We can search any ship we wish to search. You Egyptians have the Suez Canal, and if you feel it necessary to search, a ship then you will do so. You actually searched one of our ships.

[Wisa] However, the searching of the Iraqi ship took place in international waters.

[Velayati] It took place in the Iranian territorial waters. The Strait of Hormuz is 24 miles wide, and the territorial waters of every country is 12 miles wide. Half of the Strait of Hormuz is within our territorial waters; the other half is within Oman's territorial waters. The ship passed through the Strait of Hormuz on our side.

[Wisa] Do you mean there is not even a narrow strip considered an international zone in the Strait of Hormuz?

[Velayati] None at all. In addition, any country at war with another country has the right to search any hostile ship within its territorial waters. The Iraqis say there is a cease-fire and they want to interpret the cease-fire as peace in their favor. Why do they not also interpret it in our favor? If the cease-fire means peace, why are they still on our territory?

[Wisa] Do not you think that searching Iraqi ships in Gulf waters after you accepted the cease-fire is a hostile action?

[Velayati] It is considered a hostile action just as the occupation of our territory is considered a hostile action.

[Wisa] What are your priorities in the current negotiations?

[Velayati] We demand the implementation of Resolution No 598 within the framework defined by the UN secretary general's plan and in accordance with the set date and concurrence.

Velayati then asked me if I had read the resolution. I said yes. Then he continued: The first clause is on the cease-fire. Then the two sides should withdraw their forces from each other's territory without any delay after the cease-fire. This is the 11th day of the cease-fire. Is not this a delay? Which is more important, the withdrawal or the clearing of the Shatt al-'Arab, or the Arvand River? Resolution No 598 does not mention anything about the Shatt al-'Arab.

[Wisa] The Iraqis say that the shah imposed the Algiers agreement by force.

[Velayati] Let us assume it is true. How can an important international agreement be rejected in this manner while the person who signed it still rules Iraq? It was a proposal to the shah through Boumedienne.

[Wisa] The Iraqis also say that the Shatt al-'Arab belonged to Iraq before this agreement and that the shah violated the 1937 border agreement.

[Velayati] In light of the existing international rules and bases, when a difference arises on a certain issue, this cannot justify the disruption of other issues. Moreover, the Shatt al-'Arab was not Iraqi before the 1975 agreement, at least up to 15 km from the Iranian coast, which is 100 km long. This is in accordance with the Thalweg Line rule, which is the deepest line in the Shatt al-'Arab. There is also the 1969 Vienna agreement, which was signed by all states. Article 62 of this agreement states that all border treaties are lasting ones, and the 1975 agreement was approved after 1969. If they say that this agreement was imposed by force, then what would they say about 1976, when the two sides agreed that all the border agreements concluded in 1975 were firm and binding agreements? We have documents on all this, and we are not ready to retreat a single inch on the 1975 agreement because it is still valid. This agreement also includes the borders in accordance with the deepest line in Shatt al-'Arab. If the Arab states want to listen to what Iraq says happened in the past, we will see problems begin between Iraq and Kuwait and between Iraq and Saudi Arabia. Iraq will also begin to raise these issues again. We have tested Iraq, and we say 8 years of war are enough for it. From the 1st day when Iraq claimed this, the war began and lasted a long time. However, Iraq could not achieve what it wanted and it will not be able to achieve any of its objectives in this regard at the peace talks.

[Wisa] But, Mr Minister, during your conversation with me you have been calling it Shatt al-'Arab?

[Velayati] We call it Arvand Rud, and the Iraqis call it Shatt al-'Arab. It must be clear that more than half of the waters of Shatt al-'Arab come from the Iranian lakes of Qaruq and Kargha [names as received].

[Wisa] There have been reports on contacts between you and Cairo through Oman and the UN secretary general. How true are these reports?

[Velayati] I have no knowledge of this, and much is being said in this regard.

[Wisa] Do you believe that none of this is true?

[Velayati] No.

[Wisa] Does Iran plan to release the Egyptian prisoners of war soon?

[Velayati] We deal with the POW issue in accordance with a humanitarian basis. We do our utmost to secure all their needs. We hope that all the POW's, including the Egyptians, will be released soon, God willing.

[Wisa] Do you believe that peace between Iraq and Iran will be achieved one day after 5 centuries of conflicts?

[Velayati] This is our hope. We do not like hostility to continue between the two fraternal Muslim peoples and countries. We might not find two peoples who are as close together as the Iraqi and Iranian peoples.

Daily on U.S-Iran Contacts Through Genscher

JN0309120188 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1010 GMT 3 Sep 88

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Sep (WAKH)—Western diplomatic sources have divulged information on the nature of the U.S. and European contacts with Iran during the few weeks that preceded Iran's acceptance in mid-July of resolution No 598, which calls for an end to the Iraq-Iran war.

Citing these sources, the Abu Dhabi newspaper AL-ITTIHAD said today that the FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher paid a 2-day secret visit to Tehran in early March, during which he met with Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i, Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Imam Khomeyni's son Ahmad Khomeyni, and the latter's brother-in-law Sadeq Tabataba'i.

The sources noted that Genscher warned the Iranian officials against the dire consquences of their continuing the war and explained to them that the Western intelligence services indicated that Iraq had completed preparations to begin a new offensive strategy based on launching a continuous series of attacks along the entire front with the aim of regaining all the territory under Iranian occupation.

During the visit, the FRG minister conveyed to the Iranian leaders the U.S. Government's concern that there was a serious possibility that if Iraq adopted such an offensive strategy, Iran's inability to confront it would be revealed and the Iranian military establishent would collapse.

The sources pointed out that Genscher asked the Iranian officials to give him a clear and frank answer in terms of their position toward Resolution No. 598. Genscher obtained a letter to this effect from Khamene'i to the U.S. Administration in response to the U.S. warnings. Khamene'i's letter said that Iran would accept Resolution No. 598 provided two conditions were met: first, that Iran's acceptance be coupled with a UN Security Council announcement that an international commission will be formed to name the aggressor in the Gulf war; and second, that Iran's acceptance also coincide with a U.S. declaration that the United States will withdraw its military forces from the Gulf region.

The sources said that the U.S. reply to the Iranian president's message came through the Iranian Embassy in Bonn in March last year. Genscher summoned the Iranian ambassador and handed him the U.S. reply. The United States pointed out that Resolution No. 598 was regarded as an indivisible whole and that the U.S. Administration would not withdraw its forces from the Gulf before peace between Iraq and Iran had been realized and the freedom of international navigation in the Gulf waters guaranteed.

In late April, Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati went to the FRG on an official visit. He told Genscher that Iran was prepared to withdraw its second condition about the U.S. forces withdrawal from the Gulf before accepting Resolution No. 598 and Genscher promised to convey this to Washington.

The sources also said that Iranian Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani dispatched his brother, Mohammad Hashim, director of Iranian radio and television, to Greece at the beginning of the second week of July with the aim of informing Genscher, who was holidaying there, that Iran was prepared to accept Resolution No. 598 unconditionally. Then the pace of the events was accelerated in Iran leading to the official acceptance of the resolution.

Correspondent: UN Circles 'Unhappy' With Iraq

NC0409070488 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 4 Sep 88

[Report from London by unidentified correspondent of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran—recorded]

[Text] The talks between the Iranian and Iraqi experts with Perez de Cuellar's representative, which seek a solution to the stalemate in the Geneva talks, are continuing. The UN secretary general's special representative in the Iran-Iraq talks, Jan Eliasson, has held intensive and frequent meetings with the Iranian and Iraqi delegates in the past 24 hours, presenting his suggestions for reconciling the mutual stances of the two sides to resolve the present stalemate.

UN circles in Geneva are of the opinion that the consistent perseverance of the Islamic Republic of Iran's diplomatic delegation in these talks on the basis of its declared stance has closed all avenues to the blackmailing tactics of the Iraqi delegation. They also believe that Baghdad's supporters do not have any recource but to return Baghdad to its position as specified in the text of Resolution 598. The approach taken by the mass media of the UN Security Council member countries in the past few days indicates that even these countries and the UN Security Council are unhappy and apprehensive over the announcement of these preconditions by Iraq, which block the path for the implementation of the resolution in toto.

Khaneme'i Comments on Iraq's 'Repeated Mischief'

LD0409182388 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Sep 88

[Text] Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Iranian president and Supreme Defense council chairman, is visiting Khorasan Province. This afternoon he attended a gathering of people from Ferdows in Jame' Mosque. In a speech, he pointed to enemy conspiracies during 8 years of war and emphasized that, despite all these ploys, our nation and our system are still on the scenes of struggle and are stronger than ever.

The chairman pointed out that the United States, Iraq, and the Soviet Union were taken by surprise after Iran's acceptance of Resolution 598. He also pointed to the weakness of the Iraqi regime in the political arena and its representatives' inability to respond to questions by the international media in Geneva. He once again stated: We have declared a cease-fire, and we do not welcome a continuation of war. However, there is no reason for us to remain quiet in face of the enemy's repeated mischief. He added: If the war ends, all our people must stand firmly behind our officials so that we can begin the great struggle to solve social and economic problems and bottlenecks.

Military Source on Iraq's Cease-Fire Violations

NC0509052588 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 5 Sep 88

[Text] Along with its suppressive policy against the Iraqi Kurds, the Iraqi regime also violated the cease-fire on the Iran-Iraq border in the past few days.

An informed military official of the Islamic Republic of Iran referred to the major cease-fire violations by the Iraqi forces at an interview and stated that parallel with suppressive policies and the bombing of defenseless Iraqi Kurds, Iraqi planes fired rockets at 1640 and 1815 [1310

and 1445 GMT] on 2 September, and several rockets hit a point in the Dizaj area in Oshnaviyeh, 4 km inside Iranian territory. Fortunately there were no casualties.

The informed military official added that two Iraqi PC-7 planes fired three rockets at Sheykh Heyvat Valley, 3 km inside Iranian territory, at 0810 [0440 GMT] on 3 September while pursuing Kurds.

The official pointed out that the UN cease-fire observer group has been informed of the Iraqi forces' cease-fire violations.

Envoy Sees 'Little Chance' of Progress in Geneva

LD0609113388 Tehran IRNA in English 1110 GMT 6 Sep 88

["Technical Meeting Starts; Still Little Chance of Progress"—IRNA headline]

[Test] Geneva, Sept. 6, IRNA—Iran's U.N. envoy Sirus Naseri told reporters at the U.N. headquarters here this afternoon that it was "hard" to say if the peace talks will continue or not.

Naseri, who was addressing reporters as he entered the U.N. building for a technical meeting with U.N. mediators, said the talks were still continuing and that "we have to see." Asked about the possiblility of the resumption of the Iran-Iraq war on the battleground, the Iranian envoy said he did not think so.

The Iranian delegation headed by Naseri went into the technical meeting at 12:30 and no ministerial meeting was expected today.

U.N. spokeswoman Therese Gastaut told reporters earlier today that Jan Eliasson, the U.N. mediator in the Iraq-Iran war had met with some Security Council members this morning in his continued efforts to bridge the gap between the two countries.

Meanwhile, the resignation of the Iranian prime minister spread fears here in the morning that it may have a negative impact on the peace negotiations.

Premier Hoseyn Musavi had reportedly resigned because of some differences with the parliament over vote of confidence for some of his ministers.

Despite earlier reports that his resignation had been accepted, the Iranian President Ali Khamene'i rejected the resignation.

In reply to a question by a reporter if Velayati was still foreign minister, Naseri said "yes he is."

UN Mediator Meets With Delegation in Geneva

LD0609163488 Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Text] Geneva, Sept. 6, IRNA—U.N. mediator in the Iraq-Iran peace talks Jan Eliasson is reportedly "working very hard" and continuing "informal contacts" with the delegations of both countries in a bid to find a way for some progress in the negotiations.

U.N. spokeswoman Therese Gastaut told a briefing here at 18:00 hours that Eliasson had a meeting with the Iranian delegation minus Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati for one and a half hours but said no ministerial meeting was expected later today.

Eliasson last met with the two foreign ministers Saturday after which the talks were described as "constructive and businesslike."

Gastaut said Eliasson also had some "informal contacts" with the Iraqi delegation today, without elaborating.

Eliasson also held a meeting with ambassadors of the Soviet Union and China this morning in continuation of his efforts and consultations with the members of the Security Council.

'Hezbollah' of Saudi Arabia Issue Statement

LD0509182288 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Sep 88

[Text] According to an IRNA report, the Hijaz regime arrested some Muslims in that country who had organized mourning ceremonies on 22 and 23 August [Shi'ite occasion marking Imam Husayn's death].

The Hezbollah of Hijaz, by issuing a statement in Beirut today, announced: The Al Sa'ud regime, in a series of extensive operations, arrested a group of Muslims from the cities of Al-Qatif, Al-Ahsa, Taruj, and other Hijaz cities, who held a march on the evening of 22 and 23 August while chanting the slogan of "O Husayn, Peace Be Upon You" to show their disavowal of the tyrants and their allegiance with Imam Khomeyni.

In this statement, the Hezbollah of the Hijaz, while warning the Al Sa'ud regime about the detention of mourners, demanded the release of the Muslims from prisons in the Hijaz regime.

Velayati Not To Attend Nicosia Nonaligned Talks

LD0609095988 Tehran IRNA in English 0919 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Text] Geneva, Sept. 6, IRNA—Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati will not attend the non-aligned conference of foreign ministers currently being held in Nicosia, Cyprus.

Sources close to the Iranian delegation here for peace talks with Iraq under the good offices of the U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, said Velayati preferred to stay here for the peace negotiations which have been stalled by Iraq for its raising of preconditions.

Two days after talks started between Iran and Iraq here at the Place de Nations on Aug. 25, the Iraqi side brought up some preconditions which have so far made a second round of face to face talks between the two foreign ministers impossible.

Against the provisions of the Security Council 598 [as received] which both sides have officially accepted, Iraq wants the clearing of the Arvand River (Shatt al-Arab) as well as access to free shipping in the Persian Gulf and insists unless these two conditions are not met it will continue to procrastinate the peace talks.

Iran on the contrary says according to the Resolution 598 after a ceasefire which went into effect on Aug. 20, immediate troop withdrawals must come first and then exchange of prisoners as a respect for the U.N. peace plan which the Islamic Republic has accepted unconditionally.

Iraq's impediments are gradually worrying U.N. officials as well as the international community lest this should cause a deadlock in the peace talks and thus bring the two neighboring countries back to a state of war which they have fought for the past eight years.

As diplomatic activities continue to break the stalemate in the talks, foreign ministers of the six-member (Persian) Gulf Cooperation Council ended a two day meeting in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia Monday urging permanent members of the Security Council to take measures for the progress of the negotiations.

A final communique by the (P)GCC foreign ministers reminded the Security Council of its grave responsibility for the cause of global peace and security and asked the council "to guarantee the success of the negotiations" here at the U.N. headquarters.

The communique also lauded Iran for accepting the Security Council Resolution 598 which seeks an immediate end to eight years of hostility and bloodshed between Iran and Iraq.

Despite hopes yesterday for a new round of direct talks between Foreign Minister Velayati and his Iraq counterpart Tariq 'Aziz, there seems to be no major progress in the talks being held under Jan Eliasson, the personal representative of the U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Eliasson, a Swedish diplomat, was assigned by the U.N. chief last Thursday to continue supervision over the Iran-Iraq talks on his behalf because de Cuellar had other committments.

Velayati's decision not to go to Nicosia and remain here shows the significance he attaches to the talks and Iran's eagerness to see a positive move in the peace process as soon as possible.

It is believed Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani will represent Velayati at the non-aligned meet in Cyprus.

IRNA Commentary Urges CW War Prevention

LD0209211488 Tehran IRNA in English 1102 GMT 2 Sep 88

["Chemicals commentary: Shifting Smog Makes Iraq's Chemically Tainted Record More Darker"—IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Sep. 2, IRNA—Last week once again saw the U.N. Security Council unanimously condemn the use of chemical weapons in the Iraq-Iran war but as usual the 'august body' stopped short of naming the culprit, the Ba'thist regime ruling Iraq.

The council in its session on Aug. 26 was referring to a report by a U.N. fact-finding team which confirmed Iraq's use of mustard gas against civilians in the northwestern Iranian district of Oshnaviyeh, but toned down its resolution 620 by expressing 'deep concern that chemical attacks against Iran have been intensified'.

The council which is supposed to be responsible for world security contended itself by adding 'immediate and appropriate measures' will be taken in case lethal gases are used again.

However, despite its shortcomings the resolution along with the U.N. team's on-site probe of chemically hit areas once again belied Baghdad's customary denials and confirmed beyond doubt the Iraqi regime's use of poisonous gases for the umpteenth time against Iran.

Oshnoviyeh was not the only target of Iraqi chemical attacks during the nearly eight years of the imposed war, but it is earnestly hoped would be last spot where mankind choked under Baghdad's toxic fury—before the ceasefire set in. The August 2 bombardment added another 2,400 'chemical scalps' to the Ba'thists' darkened record.

The peaceful rural district was chemically attacked by enemy warplanes only several hours after the release of a report by a U.N. probe team confirming Iraqi use of chemical arms against Iranian positions in the Hamid border region, Khuzestan Province. At Hamid the U.N. team found traces of mustard gas, and said the symptoms of nerve and cyanide gases were also observed on some victims' bodies.

The report also said, Iraq had used similar gases in 1984, 1986 and 1987. Blisters, and skin and respiratory burns evident on the injured is ample proof mustard gas was used at Hamid, it added.

Regretfully, the world media not only kept mum for years over Iraq's use of chemical gases but even indulged in ambiguities trying to accuse the victim (Iran) of using such lethal weapons.

However, the regime's chemical carnage of Halabjah townspeople on March 18 this year was so heart-rending a crime that most of the world press had no option but to react against Baghdad, at least for credibility's sake.

The Iraqi regime's scant regard for international laws and norms is no longer a secret and world public opinion is aware that Baghdad has deployed chemicals whenever it became helpless against the Muslim combatants' valour. Its ruthlessness has no bounds and it massacres even its own civilians by poisonous gases.

The irony of the fact is, it has been committing all these crimes despite being one of the signatories to the 1925 Geneva protocol which bans deployment of chemical weapons.

To set the record straight, the Ba'this rulers' dastardly acts formally began in 1983. For a few months beginning from March 1983 Iraq's use of toxic shells was sporadical, but the Val-Fajr 2 thrust of Iran's Muslim combatants inside northeastern Iraq, unnerved the regime and on 23 July 1983, it massively dropped chemical bombs on a massive scale west of Piranshahr-Rawanduz road. The exposure to mustard gas maimed a group of Iranian forces.

Following the ghastly attack, the War Information Headquarters (WIH) invited foreign newsmen, who visited the wounded combatants at a Tehran hospital 15 days later and confirmed effects of toxic gases.

It was the first instance since the First World War that these internationally banned weapons were being used, but instead of responding to the gravity of the situation, world bodies sacrificed humanitarian principles on the altar of dirty politics and chose to close their eyes to the reality around.

Quite naturally, international silence towards the crime was interpreted as a sign of tactical approval by Baghdad, which tasting innocent blood felt emboldened to chemically bomb areas inside Iran including Piranshahr, Bazi Deraz, Marivan, Baneh, and Paveh 12 times from 10 August to 25 November 1983.

To cite an example, at dawn (05:00 hours local time) on October 25, 1983, Iraqi warplanes suddenly swooped down on Bayanjan village near Baneh, Kurdistan Province and dropped chemical bombs containing arsenic and mustard gases on the unsuspecting civilians. As a result a group of peaceful villagers were martyred or wounded.

Following are major landmarks of Iraq's gruesome chemical attacks:

March 14, 1984: Iraq drops chemical bombs on Khaybar operational theater (Majnun islands, Talayeh), while a U.N. fact-finding team is in Iran to investigate the Baghdad regime's earlier use of toxics.

April 8, 1985: Chemical bombs containing mustard and nerve gas are dropped on 4 different spots of Badr operational theater in Howr-al-Hoveyzeh. The area is again targetted by toxic shelling on April 9.

Jan. 1, 1987: Iran's U.N. ambassador in a note to the secretary general calls for despatch of a probe team to visit chemically wounded Iranians in western parts of the country.

Jan 5, 1987: An Iraqi chemical munitions depot between Umm-al-Rasas and Minu Islands in the Arvand river, exploded on being hit by Iranian artillery. Hundreds of Iraqi soldiers are killed or wounded.

Jan. 6, 1987: U.N. chief concerned on violation of international laws after Iraqi chemical attacks on 25 and 31 December, 1986.

Jan. 9, 1987: Iraqi warplanes mistakenly drop chemical bombs on their own positions in the Umm al-Rasas axis.

Jan. 13, 1987: Iraqi planes drop toxic bombs on Iranian forces in Karbala-5 operational theater (Shalamcheh region) wounding a group of combatants. Strong winds blow some poisonous gases toward Ba'thist positions, wounding several Iraqi soldiers.

Jan. 14, 1987: Lt-Col Walid Alvan Hammadi, in charge of HQs of Iraqi Brigade 59 captured by Muslim forces in Karbala-5 admits Iraqi regime's repeated chemical bombardment and shelling.

Jan. 16, 1987: Iranian combatants down Iraqi warplane after it drops chemical bombs in Karbala-6 theater, north of Sumar.

Feb.26, 1987: Alertness of Iran's anti-chemical units thwarts effects of Iraqi chemical weapons north of Shalamcheh-Basra road.

June 28, 1987: Iraq regime chemically attacks Shalamcheh-Basra road.

Oct. 8, 1987: Operational theater north of Sumar is chemically bombed in which several combatants are martyred. Iraqi regime also fires chemical shells at another region overlooking Sar Desht.

March 18, 1988: The Iraqi regime's chemical genocide at Halabjah. Waves of Iraqi planes drop toxic gases on their Kurdish comptriots who had welcomed the Iranian combatants. According to Iran's Red Crescent two days later over 5,000 people are martyred and another 7,000 injured with Iraqi nerve, cyanide and mustard gases.

March 30, 1988: Kalal village in Paveh suburb of Iran's Kurdistan Province is chemically bombarded.

April 10, 1988: Iraqi warplanes drop chemical bombs on a village near Marivan, while the town itself under chemical artillery barrage.

April 16, 1988: Iraq's massive use of chemical weapons during its attack on Iranian positions in the port city of al-Faw.

May 18, 1988: Several villages including Marzanabad and Bitush near Sar Desht town are chemically bombed by Iraqi planes.

June 14, 1988: Iraqi warplanes chemically bomb residential quarter of a Baneh village.

June 25, 1988: Iraqi troops widely using chemicals advanced towards the Iranian towns of Gilan-e Gharb and Sar Pol-e Zahab, occupying some areas.

August 2, 1988: In what could be termed Iraq's last toxic attack (so far) eight spots in Oshnoviyeh district are chemically bombed by enemy planes, in which more than 2,400 civilians are wounded.

The above in short are some of the major instances of the Iraqi regime's chemical crimes, which sadly the mass media preferred to ignore for cheap political considerations.

Existing statistics say in 1983 some 58, in 1984 three, in 1985 one hundred ninety two, in 1986 six, 1987 twenty four and in 1988 fifty three victims of the Iraqi chemical weapons were sent to Britain, France, Austria, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, Belgium, Japan, Spain and the United States for further treatment. Some of these victims succumbed to their injuries in foreign hospitals.

In general Iraqi regime used toxic weapons at least 196 times from 22 September 1980 to 8 April 1987 martyring 262 and wounding 27,309 people. The following is the remarks and statements of international forums and political and medical personalities:

March 2, 1984: 20 foreign and local reporters visited 100 victims of Iraqi chemicals at a Tehran hospital.

March 6, 1984: 65 foreign diplomats in Iran visited the Iraqi victims of Iraqi chemical attacks.

March 11, 1984: Well-known Belgian toxicologist Aubin Hendricks after visiting chemically wounded Iranians in Austrian hospitals said they were poisoned by nitrogen dioxide better known as yellow cross and also by yellow rain.

March 16, 1984: 'Ismit Kittani Iraqi envoy to the U.N. implicitly testified to Iraq's use of chemical gases against Iranian forces, while he was in Washington.

Jan 1985: U.N. chief Javier Perez de Cuellar tells Security Council that he failed to commit Iraq not to use chemical arms in its war against Iran.

March 27, 1985: U.N. chief releases a statement conforming and categorically condemning Iraq's use of toxic weapons in its war.

April 1, 1985: Iraqi foreign minister in an interview in Tokyo says that his country will use any types of weapon to halt Iranian advances.

Feb. 5, 1987: London DAILY TELEGRAPH quoting its correspondent in Tehran says that a captured Iraqi pilot admitted chemically bombarding Iranian positions before his plane was downed.

Jan. 1987: Documents on Finnish television show Iraqi activities to procure raw materials from Western European companies for manufacturing chemical arms as well as their use.

Feb. 1987: A European company affiliated to Monte Dizon Institute reportedly exports to Iraq tens of tons of phosporus oxichloride, a highly toxic substance which can be changed into tabon gas. Iraq's use of this gas against Iran has been confirmed several times.

Feb. 7, 1987: Another victim of Iraqi chemical gases succumbs to his injuries in a West German Hospital bringing the number of wounded attaining martyrdom in this country to 11.

March 16, 1987: Iraqi POW Lt. Kazim Doghair, a chemical specialist officer says the Iraqi regime in addition to warplanes uses 55 and 175 mm. artillery to fire chemical shells on Iranian positions.

April 27, 1987: Following the chemical bombardments of the Kurdish areas in northern Iraq by Baghdad, Political Bureau of Iraq's Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) calls on international forums and world countries to condemn the Iraqi regime's chemical crimes.

April 27, 1987: Swedish TV shows the sites of Iraqi chemical attacks in Khorramshahr and also several chemical victims.

July 8, 1987: The Paris-based international federation of human rights condemned the Iraqi regime for its use of chemical weapons. Earlier in 30 June, 1987 the World Health Organization (WHO) denounced Iraqi chemical attacks on residential quarters of Sar Desht border town.

On 29 June, 1987 following Iraq's redeployment of chemical gases in Sar Desht town Iranian Foreign Ministry in a note to the U.N. chief called on the signatories of Geneva Protocol 1925 to prevent the Iraqi regime from using toxic weapons.

On 14 July, 1987 British Foreign Office's Minister David Mellor said Iraqi use of chemical weapons in the war requires urgent agreement for total banning of such weapons.

July 24, 1987: Hans-Dietrich Genscher, West German foreign minister, declares Iraq is initiator of the war and also confirms use of chemical bombs against Iran.

Aug. 4, 1987: At Iran's request the U.N. releases a 20-page document containing photographs of women and children wounded by Iraqi chemical weapons in Sar Desht.

Aug. 30, 1987: Speaker of the Canadian parliament condemns Iraqi use of chemical weapons against Iranians both in war fronts and on cities.

Oct. 12, 1987, Two Red Cross representatives and 31 foreign newsmen inspected sites of Iraqi chemical bombardments in Sumar, and photographed victims.

Dec. 12, 1987: A West German prosecutor files suit against 12 German firms accused of sending chemical equipment to Iraq.

Feb. 25, 1988: The U.N. says at least 1,000 people killed in Iraqi chemical attacks on Iran.

March 30, 1988: Australian radio confirms that Iraqi regime had used chemical warfare in Halabjah town said this is not the first time that Iraq deploys chemical weapons when it becomes helpless.

On 30 March, 1988 Italian daily IL GIORNO terms Iraqi chemical attack on Halabjah town as the first case of massacring civilians by toxic gases.

On the same day New Zealand and Australian foreign ministers, U.N. chief, British prime minister and Canadian foreign minister condemn chemical bombardment of Halabjah town.

Again on 30 March, 1988 Dr. Maurice and Dr. George from organization of physicians without frontier in Belgium confirm Iraqi use of mustard and probably cyanide gases after inspecting Halabjah and visiting chemical victims in Brussels.

On 4 April, 1988 Vahit Menci Oglu, deputy of United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) after visiting Iraqi Kurdish refugees in two Iranian provinces said he witnessed chemical bombardment of the camps of the Kurdish refugees terming it as unprecedented in UNHCR history.

On 31 March, 1988 the sixth group of foreign journalists from France, Britain, Lebanon, Canada and West Germany visited dire consequences of Iraqi chemical attack on Halabjah town. On the same day 48 British parliamentarians, a group of Japanese parliament deputies, human rights committee at the British House of Commons, International Red Cross and Poland's prime minister called for condemnation of the Iraqi regime for chemical attacks on Halabah.

On 14 April, 1988 Jacques Demilliano, head of the Dutch medical team after visiting Halabjah chemical victims announced that the Iraqi regime used nerve gas against the town.

On 3 May, 1988 Nagasaki mayor in a message to Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani deplored Iraqi use of chemicals in Halabjah.

On 9 May, 1988 Luxembourg Government supplied Iran with six tons of medicine worth 60,000 dollars for treatment of chemical victims.

On 11 May, 1988 Professor Hendricks, the Belgian toxicologist, in a report said Iraqi regime used mustard, cyanide and sarin gases in Halabjah similar to those deployed by Baghdad regime in Majnun islands.

On 1 June, 1988 Foreign Minister Velayati told U.N. disarmament conference that Security Council's position towards Iraqi use of chemicals in Sar Desht and Halabjah would cause lethal weapons to be used for mass destruction of human beings.

On 2 July, Iraqi ambassador to London, Muhammad al-Mashshat told London radio that his country had regularly used chemical weapons since Iran's attacks on Iraq's soil.

Earlier on 1 July, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz announced in West Germany that Iraq had used chemical weapons in its war against Iran.

On 24 June, 1988 U.S. Congressmen in a communique condemned the Iraqi regime for using chemical weapons and called on President Reagan to prevent the Iraqi regime from further use of toxic gases by exerting political pressures on Baghdad.

Meanwhile in 1986 a Dutch chemical factory was fined 100,000 guilders for illegal exports of chemical products to Iraq.

On 1 August, 1988 U.N. fact-finding team was convinced that Iraqi forces had repeatedly deployed chemical weapons against Iran in the war.

The use of toxic weapons have become usual for the Iraqi regime during the war, which victimized many defenceless people.

Now that hopes have raised for ending the war through full implementation of the Resolution 598, international societies have a sensitive duty to take necessary measures to prevent using of chemical weapons in any war.

Taking punitive measures and serious condemnation of the Iraqi regime are among the first responsibilities of the international forums and world countries.

Pakistan

Kabul Proposal on UN Conference Rejected

BK0309154288 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 3 Sep 88

[Text] Pakistan has described as mere propaganda the Kabul regime's proposal for a separate UN conference about the implementation of the Geneva accords. A foreign office spokesman said today in Islamabad that the proposal is designed to obtain international recognition for the Kabul regime. He added that the Geneva accords contain provisions on the implementation of the accords. Detailed procedures, unanimously agreed upon, are contained in the fourth instrument of the Geneva accords regarding alleged violations of the accords and for their immediate and mutually satisfactory solution.

The spokesman said Pakistan has always been willing to discuss any issue regarding the implementation of the Geneva accords in accordance with these procedures. He regretted that the Kabul regime simultaneously puts forward propaganda-based proposals regarding the implementation of the Geneva accords and flagrantly violates the same accords. The spokesman recalled that as soon as the Kabul regime presented its proposal, five of its aircraft violated Pakistan's airspace last Thursday [1 September] and bombed two villages in the NWFP causing civilian casualties. Pakistan had immediately informed the UN Good Office Mission on Afghanistan and Pakistan about the incident which sent a team to the areas where these attacks took place. The spokesman said the incident unveils the real intentions of the Kabul regime regarding the implementation of the Geneva accords.

Senior Minister Condemns 1 Sep Afghan Bombing

BK0309043188 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 Sep 88

[Text] Senior Federal Minister Mohammad Aslam Khan Khattak has condemned the bombing by Kabul administration planes of Dallazak village near Shabqadar on 1 September. He termed the bombing a violation of the Geneva accord and said it shows that the Kabul administration is pursuing a policy of violence against the Afghan refugees and the people of Pakistan. He said that such aggressive acts cannot suppress the Afghan people's spirit of freedom, nor can it deter the Pakistani Government and the people from providing humanitarian aid to Afghan refugees.

Commentary Raps Air Attacks

BK0709100088 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Unattributed Commentary]

[Text] Afghan air attacks against Pakistan continue. Barely 4 days after the recent bombing of two villages in Charsadda District, the Afghan Air Force has struck again. The area hit this time is in Dhidh District. Two people, including a school boy, were killed and seven others injured. As the bombs fell outside the populated areas, the casualties were not heavy and there was no major damage to property. The places of Charsadda and Dhidh that came under by Afghan air attacks are located 40 to 50 miles from Pakistan-Afghan border, well inside Pakistan. The Afghan (?attack is) a blatant aggression against Pakistan's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Coming at a time, when all sides are engaged in the implementation of Geneva accord on Afghanistan, the incident will constitute a breach of this international agreement.

The Government of Pakistan has taken due notice at the air violations and sounded a timely warning to the Kabul regime. Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has asserted that any intruding aircraft would be shot down, pointing out that one such aeroplane had indeed been brought down previously. In a similar statement, Defense Minister Mahmud Haroon has warned that repeated violations of Pakistan's airspace by Afghanistan's military aircraft would lead to serious consequences and Pakistan would be constrained to deal with such transgressions in a suitable manner.

The Pakistani foreign minister is on his way to Cyprus to attend a meeting of the Nonaligned Movement foreign ministers, where he proposes to discuss the matter with Mr Cordovez, the special envoy of the UN secretary general on Afghanistan, and the foreign ministers attending the nonaligned ministerial conference. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan would, undoubtedly, impress upon those at this important meet the need for using their influence with the Soviet Union to restrain its protege in Kabul from such irresponsible acts, which can, at the very least, aggravate tension in the region. The indiscretions in which Najibullah regime is indulging frequently appear designed to pressurize Pakistan to divert from its principled position on Afghanistan and give up its efforts to facilitate a comprehensive settlement of the problem, which will ensure a complete Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan and end to the fighting there, the induction of a broad-based government in Kabul, the voluntary

return home of the Afghan refugees, and last, but not the least, the exercise of the right of self-determination by the Afghans. Such acts of aggression show that the [word indistinct] regime at Kabul is making a last desperate bid to sustain in power, which it assumed with foreign assistance and which it no longer hopes to retain in the face of relentless pressure exerted by the mujahidin.

Court Admits Petitions on Junejo 'Sacking'

BK0409032488 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Sep 88

[Text] A Pakistan superior court has admitted for hearing three identical petitions challenging the validity of the May 29th presidential order dissolving the National Assembly and sacking the prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo. The court sources in Islamabad said that Justice Khalilur Rahman admitted the petitions and requested the Lahore high court chief justice to constitute a larger bench for the hearing.

Explosion Rocks Karachi Railway Station

BK0409082088 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 4 Sep 88

[Text] There was an explosion at the Karachi cantonment railway station this morning. According to APP, nine persons received minor injuries.

AFP Reports 12 Injured

BK0409062488 Hong Kong AFP in English 0609 GMT 4 Sep 88

[Text] Karachi, Sept 4 (AFP)—Twelve people were injured in an explosion at a crowded cantonment railway station here Sunday, hospital sources said.

The cause of the blast was not immediately known, the sources said.